Oxfordshire Guardian

Abingdon, Wantage and Faringdon

Weekly leisure guide for in and around Oxford

Thursday, May 24 - Wednesday, May 30, 2018 oxfordshireguardian.co.uk Free

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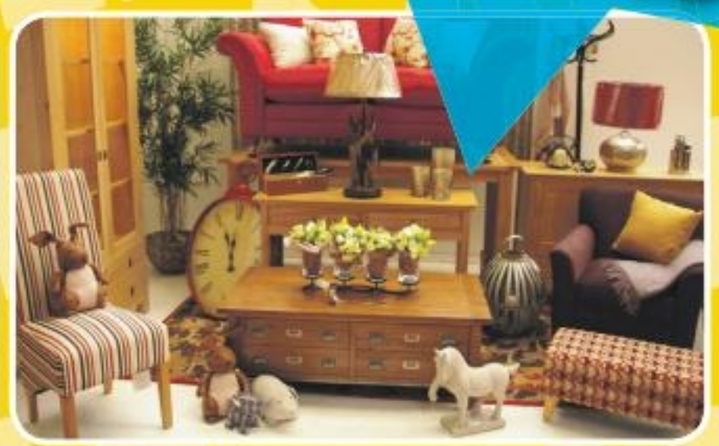

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New relief road will 'have no improvement' on traffic level

By Owen Hughes

APPROVAL for plans to build a relief road for a 1,500-home development in Wantage will make "no improvement" for the market town residents.

Vale of White Horse District Council has granted planning consent for two major southern and central access roads to St Modwen's 227-acre development at Kingsgrove.

But a campaign group says even with the two access roads, the Kingsgrove development will increase pressure on other roads around Wantage.

Wantage and Grove Campaign Group (WaGCG) manager Julie Mabberley said: "These access roads are only going to affect the Kingsgrove development itself. The relief road would only stop traffic through the north of Wantage.

"If they really wanted to help properly, they would have funded the Western bypass road as the development is going to push traffic through smaller roads, like Denchworth Road or the Camel roundabout.

"It's not going to make things significantly worse, but there will be no improvement either."

WaGCG campaigned against the development on the edge of Charlton Village that they say is "destroying the identity of our small market town".

Following the approval of the plans, Ms Mabberley added: "We would like things to get done as quickly as possible now. If they're going to do it, we just want them to get their finger out and do it."

The council's approval of the plans will result in a further £10million of infrastructure investment at the site later this year.

The developer said the consents will unlock three key phases of residential development, which will comprise 336 more new homes.

The council has also given permission for the scheme's Development Brief to deliver the neighbourhood community hub, which is central to the community and non-residential elements of the scheme.

Rob Draper, development director, at St Modwen, said: "Kingsgrove is one of the south east's most significant strategic housing projects, and these milestone consents for major infrastructure delivery at Kingsgrove will substantially reduce the time needed to bring forward high-quality new homes and community facilities.

"St Modwen will be working closely with contractors to minimise any impact on the local road network for these consented works."

The development forms part of the council's new Local Plan 2031 Part 1.

Public hearing sessions of Part 2 will begin in July. Details at https://bit.ly/2kgVSfr

Arthur, 91, is a real high flier

AN Oxfordshire pensioner was on cloud nine after taking to the skies more than 70 years after training to become a navigator.

Arthur Taylor, from East Hanney near Wantage, trained to fly aged 18 but never got his licence.

He said climbing in to the Tiger Moth cockpit for his 91st birthday was a "high point" in his life.

At 17-years-old, Arthur tried to sign up to the RAF to fight in the Second World War, but was found out for being below the legal age limit.

He said: "During the War, everyone wanted to be a pilot or navigator."

Unfortunately for Arthur, by the time he was old enough to train, the war ended. He was offered a desk job at the RAF instead, which he turned down.

"I'd been thinking about flying for the last three or four years, but never got around to it, then a friend bought me a flying lesson," he added.

Arthur still harbours hopes of getting his wings and flying solo.

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Friends celebrate record figure with a cuppa

The cup that cheers!: Volunteers and hospital staff from left, Dora Granata, Andrew Bax, David Simpson, Dorrie Gethings, Anthony Loehnis, Lisa Broughton, Ruth Greves and Ian Pinnell, celebrate the achievement

A GROUP of hospital volunteers are raising a cuppa to celebrate hitting £500,000 in turnover.

The John Radcliffe Hospital League of Friends has been running since the 1970s and this record-breaking figure has meant they have been able to donate £200,000 to the hospital.

The group which runs two cafes – one in the main hospital and one in the women's centre – regularly serves more than 700 customers a day.

Ruth Greves, chairman of the grant committee at League of Friends, said: "Over the years we have seen many changes – from originally just offering tea and a bun, to today – where we serve hot and cold food in an attractive and professional environment, with a 5 star food hygiene rating.

"It's great to know that all those sandwiches, cups of tea, and cakes have such an impact allowing us to purchase specialist medical equipment and support staff projects across the hospital."

Chief Nurse at the hospitals trust, Sam Foster said they provide wonderful support "all done with a big smile and a big heart".

Calls for cost of living payment for NHS staff

A SHORTAGE of staff is "crippling" Oxford's NHS services as union members call for a cost of living allowance for Oxfordshire workers.

NHS staff in UNISON have been campaigning for an Oxford weighting to salaries in preparation for the Oxford March for the NHS on June 9.

Currently NHS staff in Oxfordshire receive basic pay when other NHS staff in the South East get an additional cost of living supplement to meet the high cost of housing.

In areas of London with housing costs comparable to Oxfordshire, the supplement ranges from £3,553 to £4,528.

Ian Mckendrick, communications officer for Oxfordshire UNISON health branch, said staff are at "breaking point" due to workload and stress levels as they "struggle to cover gaps in staffing".

He said: "The shortage of staff is crippling local NHS services.

"We have seen beds closed, operations cancelled, waiting times increased and A&E overloaded.

"Oxford hospitals are unable to compete with areas that pay the cost of living supplement.

"It is a disgrace that action has still not been taken on what is a running sore. If the department of health won't act to solve this problem then we have no choice but to act ourselves."

InBrief

Motorcyclist injured

A MOTORCYCLIST escaped with only minor injuries after his bike became wedged in the side of a tractor.

South Central Ambulance Service is warning of the dangers of pulling out onto a main road following Monday's crash in Ewelme, near RAF Benson.

SCAS, which shared the striking image online, said the rider escaped with minor injuries and was treated at the scene before going to hospital.

IT business relocates

A LEADING IT solutions provider has relocated to Milton Park.

Planet IT, which offers IT services and solutions to businesses, has moved from Harwell Campus.

The company has seen rapid expansion prompting its move to Milton Park which it says fits well with 'future growth plans'.

Drink while you wait

COMMUTERS at Oxford Parkway Station can now drown their sorrows if their train is late.

The news rail users can now enjoy an alcoholic beverage at the north Oxford station was announced on Monday via an advertising board. It read: "Ladies and gentlemen, we now serve beer, wine and prosecco."

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100 Oxfam employees face axe after scandal

By George Welch

STAFF at crisis embroiled Oxfam face redundancy as the sexual misconduct scandal hits the charity's income.

The Cowley-based charity said in the region of 100 staff could be affected as it needs to 'live within its means'.

It is another blow for Oxfam which also revealed last week that its chief executive Mark Goldring will stand down at the end of the year.

Oxfam will not bid for government money, which gives about £30million per year, while a number of other high-profile donors have halted funding until they receive assurances from the charity about how it will prevent sexual misconduct in future.

An Oxfam spokesperson said: "We are having to reorganise our work in order to ensure we live within our means while doing all we can to protect the support we give to millions of people striving to escape poverty and survive humanitarian disasters.

Stepping down: Oxfam chief executive Mark Goldring

"Some donors have paused new funding of our work pending reassurances. Sadly this will mean that we will lose some great people in our international programmes and in the UK.

"We are still working through the effect this will have on redundancies, but our estimate at the start of the process was that it could affect in the region of 100 staff in the UK."

The charity has received significant criticism from government about its handling of sexual misconduct allegations in Haiti in 2011.

The charity is also the subject of a Charity Commission inquiry into its safeguarding practices and its response to claims of sexual misconduct.

It was announced last Wednesday that Mr Goldring would be stepping down as chief executive.

Mr Goldring, who was criticised for his handling of the claims that aid workers used prostitutes in 2011, said someone else should 'rebuild' the charity.

In a statement, he said: "I think that this journey will best be led by someone bringing fresh vision and energy and making a long-term commitment to see it through."

Oxfam said Mr Goldring's resignation had "absolutely nothing to do with his handling" of the crisis.

Unite, the union that represents Oxfam workers, called on Mr Goldring to leave immediately and for Oxfam to appoint a new chief executive as soon as possible to 'reassure' staff.

Celebrating the best of business

By George Welch

A SPACE technology business and an IT specialist firm were the big winners at the inaugural Vale4Business awards.

Oxford Space Systems and CIS scooped two awards each during an exciting evening celebrating business excellence at Williams F1 Conference Centre in Grove on Friday.

New business Childrey Stores and business space of the year Boston House Business Centre also came away with an award each at the ceremony hosted by British Olympic skier and journalist Graham Bell.

Oxford Space Systems, based on the Harwell Campus, received an award for their research, development and innovation.

The space company's CEO, Mike Lawton, was joint winner for business leader of the year award with Richard Marsh, CEO of CIS Ltd.

Peter Mols, business development manager from business coaching organisation ActionCoach, said the high quality of the finalists made it difficult to choose just one.

He said: "Great leaders inspire, motivate and surround themselves with great people. The quality of the finalists made it simply impossible to choose just one.

"Both our winners are inspirational, driven people who have grown great local companies, with a focus on having brilliant people at the heart of them."

CIS Ltd won its second award for being overall Employer of the Year.

Meanwhile, science company Immunocore was crowned Large Business of the Year.

Simon Bassett, lead partner of Royds Withy King solicitors, which sponsored the award, said: "We were impressed by Immunocore's growth, their commitment to engaging their employees and to public engagement and outreach with their many STEM ambassadors."

Immunocore describes itself as a world leading T cell receptor (TCR) company which aims to transform medical practice in the most challenging disease areas.

Data specialists Databasix UK claimed the small business of the year title and cleaning firm Alfresco Group won the award for medium sized business.

The social responsibility award went to Oxford Wood Recycling for supporting people from different backgrounds into work, while building a successful and sustainable business.

During the evening, aspiring race car drivers tested their skills on the Williams Formula 1 simulators and raised £1,351 for the Vale chairman's charities, Children's Air Ambulance and Alzheimer's Society.

Winners: The first Vale4Business awards were a great success

Vale4Business Award winners

- Biffa New Business of the Year winner - **Childrey Stores**
- MSC R&D Innovation Award winner - **Oxford Space Systems**
- Inca Caring Accounting Small Business of the Year winner - **Databasix UK Ltd**
- Inca Caring Accounting Medium Sized Business of the Year winner - **Alfresco Group Ltd**
- Royds Withy King Large Business of the Year winner - **Immunocore Ltd**
- Action Coach Business Leader of the Year winner - **Mike Lawton, Oxford Space Systems and Richard Marsh, CIS Ltd**
- Bluestream Recruitment Social Responsibility Award winner - **Oxford Wood Recycling**
- Harwell Campus Business Space of the Year winner - **Boston House Business Centre**
- Vale4Business Employer of the Year winner - **CIS Ltd**

InBrief

Behind the curtains

WALLINGFORD'S Corn Exchange will be revealing all its backstage secrets when it bares its inner workings to the public at a special open day next month.

The free event on June 2 will celebrate the culmination of a major £650,000 refurbishment project which involved a new roof and auditorium improvements.

Visitors can tour the historic building, taking a peep behind the scenes and front-of-house between 10am and 4pm.

Parking petition

A PETITION has been launched asking the town council to tackle 'nuisance' parking in Didcot.

The campaign, launched by resident Georgina Connolly, also asked the authority to give its official support to civil parking enforcement.

Visit tinyurl.com/yb4lp3u5 for more information and to join the nearly 200 people who have already signed the petition.

Read the full story in next week's Guardian.

Local Plan hearing

THE first public hearing dates on the second part of Vale of White Horse District Council's Local Plan have been set for July.

A government inspector has announced the timetable to assess whether the plan, a 2,200-home allocation to offset Oxford's housing needs, is 'sound'.

Abingdon and Witney College will host the events between July 3-6 and July 24-27. Visit tinyurl.com/y9k4q4pb for more information.

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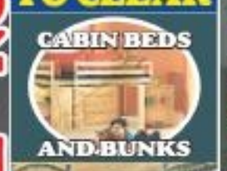
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Gearing up for cycling festival

Thousands of all ages expected at popular three-day event

By George Welch

CYCLISTS have been told to saddle up for a 'bigger than ever' Wallingford Festival of Cycling which this year will boast a number of new initiatives.

Pedalling the festival for a fourth year, organisers have revealed the free event will host new features including a cycling show and a crazy soap box challenge.

Around 7,500 people could attend the action-packed weekend – from Friday, July 6 to Sunday 8 – which also boasts several organised rides for all ages and abilities, a pump track, outdoor spin classes and children's cycle coaching.

Beginning as a one-day festival in 2014 the popular event has stretched into a three-day fun-filled occasion for bike buffs.

The festival, organised by volunteers, aims to 'inspire as many people as possible, young and old, to get on their bikes'.

Co-organiser Tony Sefton said: "This year is about getting more of us on our bikes whatever our ability so please come and join in – we have something for everyone."

The event begins with Friday's 10-mile trailblazer mountain bike ride.

Young riders can meet British Cycling coaches on Saturday to perfect their technique and take part in races.

On offer in the afternoon will be films, clips and live interviews with cycling adventurer Sarah Outen and members of The Adventure Syndicate, a group of top female cyclists who aim to inspire and encourage others into cycling. Tickets will be available from the Corn Exchange.

On the festival's final day, rides include the 60km and 120km Festival Flyer, the 25mile trailblazer mountain bike ride and the Rubies Family Fancy Dress Ride.

The soap box challenge will feature participants racing across Wallingford Bridge in homemade motor-less vehicles.

Dylan Evans, active communities manager at South Oxfordshire District Council, said: "Together we are making south Oxfordshire a fitter, healthier and happier community where everyone has the opportunity to enjoy outdoor sport.

"It is wonderful to see that the festival has now grown into a three-day event."

Visit wfoc.co.uk to enter races, volunteer or find out more about the events.

Variety of events: Serious cyclists can take part in races while young ones can try out the pump track **Top picture**: *BobMacPhotos*

InBrief

School work starts

BUILDING work has begun at South Oxfordshire's Fitzwaryn School for a new post-16 building.

The Wantage special school, rated outstanding at its last inspection, is set to increase its capacity from 96 to 108 pupils, amid increasing demand for places in the area.

Work is expected to be completed by the new term in September.

Town's new mayor

LEE Upcraft has been elected mayor of Wallingford for 2018.

Cllr Upcraft has lived in Wallingford since 2004 and has served as a town councillor for two years.

The Independent has highlighted the Wallingford Neighbourhood Plan, the Bull Croft and Regal projects as being high on his agenda for the next 12 months.

The Mayor's consort will be his wife Saveria Upcraft and his deputy is Cllr Dee Cripps.

Around Abingdon

GET to know Abingdon's history this bank holiday weekend with a day of guided walks.

The route includes meandering the original town boundary as it was when the Royal Charter was granted to Abingdon by Queen Mary in 1556.

The walks start and ends at the Market Place and can be booked on the day. Refreshments at the Abbey Buildings from 10am to 4.30pm.

A safe place to go if you're lost or worried

FIRST it was Henley, next came Wallingford and then Didcot – now it is Thame's turn to provide 'peace of mind' to vulnerable people.

The Safe Places scheme has expanded to its fourth location, giving people somewhere to go if they are feeling lost, worried or threatened.

Staff at participating premises, which will display a distinctive Safe Places logo, will look after those in need of support carrying a special card with contact details on.

In total, more than 50 premises have now signed up in south Oxfordshire, including seven new locations in Thame, three in Wheatley and four in Chinnor.

Cllr Caroline Newton, cabinet member for community safety at South Oxfordshire District Council, which is behind the scheme, praised the early success of Safe Places.

Oxfordshire Family Support Network is one of the organisations to support the scheme.

Feeling safe: Cllr Caroline Newton, centre, and Jan Sunman from Oxfordshire Family Support Network, second from right, at the launch of the Safe Places scheme in Thame

Jan Sunman, a volunteer from the group, said one of its key advantages is that it provides 'great peace of mind' to vulnerable people and their families.

To request a Safe Places contact card, or you are a business interested in becoming a Safe Place, contact communitysafety@southandvale.gov.uk.

Warning over extraction at planned marina

WALLINGFORD risks being left with "a flooded hole in the ground" if proposals for a new marina development go ahead.

The planning application for a proposed 280 berth River Thames marina development on land at White Cross Farm, Wallingford, has been validated by Oxfordshire County Council.

The application was submitted to the planning authority by London Rock Supplies and agents Grenfield Associates in April after a public consultation in January.

A statement on behalf of the two companies said: "It was very useful for us to understand local views about public access and future use of the marina."

Wallingford Town Councillor Adrian Lloyd said: "This is not an application for a marina, it is an application for sand and gravel extraction with the pit to be turned into a marina afterwards.

"No restoration will take place until all the sand and gravel is extracted and all the revenue has gone. Unless OCC requires the developer to put a sum of money into a locked account up front, there will be a risk that no marina will actually be built and we will be left with a flooded hole in the ground."

View the planning application at https://bit.ly/2s3MTSy, reference MW.0033/18

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News

Celebrations and cupcakes

25,000 illegal cigarettes seized in raids

MORE than 25,000 illegal cigarettes with an estimated street value of £8,000 have been seized in raids on shops across Oxfordshire.

Trading Standards and police officers discovered the cigarettes at shops in Witney and Cowley – with the help of sharp sniffing Springer Spaniel Scamp.

The teams raided three shops on Sunday following undercover surveillance and tip-offs from the public as part of a crackdown to reduce smoking rates.

Trading Standards operations manager Jody Kerman said it is not only the criminal aspect that concerns the council.

"These cigarettes are sold at pocket money prices and so they help recruit the next generation of smokers," he said.

Trading Standards, which is part of Oxfordshire County Council, said there has been an increase in tip-offs from the public since OCC invested in a dedicated tobacco control officer last year.

The work is part of a year-long crackdown which began in October. Since then 32,000 illegal legal cigarettes have been seized in Oxfordshire.

According to Trading Standards, illegal cigarettes have a negative financial impact on legitimate businesses, and they reduce tax revenue leaving less money for the NHS to help people with smoking related diseases.

Visit tinyurl.com/ya298sxab to see Scamp in action.

LIKE millions of people around the country, traders in Oxford's Covered Market were awash with red, white and blue as they celebrated the royal wedding.

Displays of patriotism could be seen all around the historic market with flags and bunting strung up as shops joined in marking the marriage of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle on Saturday.

The Covered Market Tenants' Association set up a stall in the arcade handing out a variety of treats to mark the special day.

Florists, a cake shop and a beauty goods store all donated free royal-themed treats including miniature bouquets, bath bombs and cupcakes.

Shoppers could even tuck into an edible image of the new Duke and Duchess of Sussex.

Pubs all over the city and beyond were showing the ceremony as the county joined in congratulating the bride and groom.

Pensioner conned out of £5,000 by bogus officer

By George Welch

AN 80-year-old woman was scammed out of almost £5,000 after conmen claimed to be phoning from the Metropolitan Police.

Thames Valley Police have issued a warning after the Thame pensioner was called on May 11 and told £4,800 had been fraudulently withdrawn from her account.

The fraudster said it had been intercepted by officers but should be withdrawn from a bank on Thame High Street for the police to check it was not counterfeit.

The elderly woman was told to call back 999 to prove it was not a scam, a tactic used by swindlers who remain on the line then pretend to answer a new call.

She took the cash out and it was collected from her house using a 'code word'.

It is unlikely the money will ever be recovered, police said.

TVP has urged people to remain vigilant after a further £12,000 was almost stolen by fraudsters.

Another Thame resident received a call on April 20 telling them they owed a large amount of unpaid tax and were threatened with arrest.

The victim was 'very frightened' and told not to contact any third parties, including the police, and went on to transfer the £12,000 in three transactions to the fraudsters' account.

However, on this occasion, bank staff were suspicious and contacted the police who stopped two of the transactions. Most of the money was retrieved, police said.

Officers have reminded people that the bank or the police never ask you to meet and hand over money or anything valuable.

They also said neither will ever call to ask you to verify your personal details or pin, or offer to pick up your card by courier.

Anyone concerned about a phone call is told to unplug the phone at the wall, plug it back in then call 101.

Visit tinyurl.com/yalbecxv for more information on how to protect yourself against fraudsters and identity theft.

PC sacked for using 'inappropriate force' on cyclist

A POLICE officer who struck a man with his baton three times and then lied about it has been sacked for using 'inappropriate' force.

PC Adam Scarratt hit a cyclist, who did not stop, twice before delivering a third blow of his baton when the man dismounted, knocking him to the floor.

Thames Valley Police said the officer, who was based at Cowley Police station, then gave 'dishonest' information about the incident which happened in Oxford on October 4 last year.

He was dismissed by the Force following a misconduct hearing last Wednesday.

The hearing, held at TVP's headquarters in Kidlington, also found he used foul language rather than asking the man, who was cycling along Van Diemen's Lane, to stop.

Following the incident, Mr Scarratt provided a statement that was 'materially inaccurate and untrue'.

Deputy Chief Constable for Thames Valley Police John Campbell, said: "PC Scarratt's actions fell well below the standard expected of our officers in that he used force completely inappropriately, he then acted dishonestly as he gave an account of the incident that was not true.

"As such he has been dismissed from the Force without notice."

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News

Farming and rural skills on show

By Owen Hughes

MORE than 7,000 people are expected to attend an annual showcase of farming and rural skills in west Oxfordshire this weekend.

Oxfordshire Young Farmers are bringing their county show and rally to Ducklington Show Ground complete with a pint-sized pony, dog agility and entertainment, displays and crafts for the whole family.

Animals are set to be the stars of the show so if you have a dog you think is the best biscuit catcher or the one the judges would most like to take home, bring them along and test their skills.

Terrier racing and sheepdog skills will also feature and making a big impression will be miniature Shetland pony Mr Fuddles.

At the other end of the equine scale, visitors can enjoy the Suffolk Punch heavy horse display in the main arena which will also feature a motorcycle display of skills and stunts.

There will be craft, trade and food stalls, with local farmers' markets, and a countryside area with livestock.

Visitors will be able to take part in activities including clay pigeon shooting and a climbing wall, and learn about aspects of farming life with a 'live' chick hatching area and how to milk a cow.

For those who like big machines, a fascinating display of the very latest agricultural machinery will showcase today's farming in action, as well as a nostalgic look at tractors and farm vehicles of yesteryear with a parade of vintage machinery.

Making preparations: Oxfordshire Young Farmers are getting ready for the show on Saturday and so is Mr Fuddles, pictured with George Brown 13, of Witney Young Farmers

Gates open at 10am on Saturday with tickets at £7.50 for adults, £5 for 12-16 year olds or £20 for a family ticket (2+2).

Enjoy a vintage day out at fair

STEP back in time at Oxford Town Hall on Saturday when Lou Lou's Vintage Fair returns showcasing clothing, homewares and collectables from the 1920s to the present day.

The all-day event will also offer visitors delicious handmade cakes courtesy of Pear of Peas, in an on-site vintage tea room serving treats on fine bone china and boasting music from a vintage-inspired musician performing renditions of classics from bygone eras.

The fair will also allow you to try a Victory Roll in your hair, a bouncing bouffant from the Sixties or go for Hollywood glamour with a beauty salon which can turn you into a pin-up icon in a matter of minutes.

Founder Lou Lou Glover said they aim to give customers a unique vintage experience with carefully selected traders.

She added: "We are confident in our exceptional collection of high quality and affordable one-off vintage pieces that you won't find anywhere else on the market.

"Vintage is becoming an increasingly popular way to shop, it's a sustainable and eco-friendly option that offers something for everyone."

The fair runs from 12pm to 5pm. Admission is £2.50 for adults and free for children under 12.

For more information go to www.thevintagefair.com

Chance to find your next job at council's free employment fair

EMPLOYERS searching for new recruits are being encouraged to promote jobs for free at a fair.

The Kidlington Job Fair, run by Cherwell District Council, is open to all and is free for jobseekers and businesses from across the district.

Cllr Lynn Pratt, Cherwell's lead member for estates and the economy, said: "The chance to meet potential candidates face to face can be invaluable when it comes to assessing a person's suitability for a role.

"Our fairs provide a great opportunity for employers who don't have a huge marketing budget to advertise their opportunities to people who are receptive. They have a history of attracting a lot of recruiters."

The fair is at Exeter Hall on June 2 from 10.30am to 1pm.

Stands are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis, call 01295 221863 for more details.

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£4m hospice extension work will help to offer 'best end-of-life care'

By George Welch

MAJOR work on a multi-million pound extension to Sobell House hospice began this week.

Builders arrived at the Headington hospice's Churchill Hospital base on Monday to start on the new state-of-the-art clinic and garden annex.

Sobell hopes to open the £4.3million new build, which will provide specialist outpatient services to people with terminal illness, in May next year.

It is positive news for the east Oxford hospice which last week launched a recruitment drive after staff shortages forced it to close a third of its beds.

The clinic will help patients live at home for longer by providing vital specialist services.

The garden annex will be an easily navigated and colourful six-patient ward designed with dementia patients in mind.

Chief executive Diane Gardner, said: "More than two years ago we set out our vision for the future of hospice care in Oxfordshire and the start of the construction marks a big milestone.

"The new space is a direct response to the increasing demand for end of life care which is being driven by an ageing population in the county.

"This will help us to ensure Oxfordshire is a place where everyone has access to good end of life care, when they need it."

Palliative care consultant Mary Miller added: "Patients and their families who need the services of Sobell House deserve the best care we can provide.

"This new purpose-built facility will improve our ability to provide exceptional care and provide a valuable space to enable care for those who are nearing the end of their life."

The specialist facility will cater for an increasing number of patients with more complex care needs.

It has been funded through donations and legacies.

Sobell's clinical lead Tim Harrison said: "As medical techniques develop, people are living longer and we have seen a huge increase in patients with complex medical needs who require great skill and dedication from those who care for them.

"This pressure will only increase over the next generations and so it is vital that we create the right environment to look after them."

Extension: Main entrance showing reception area and below, garden area

InBrief

Arrest over drugs

A 34-year-old man from Abingdon was one of four people arrested in Andover, Hampshire, after police stopped and searched a car for drugs.

The man was arrested on suspicion of being concerned in the supply of a Class A drug alongside a 22-year-old man, a 37-year-old woman and a 13-year-old boy from London.

The car was stopped by officers on foot in the Rye Way area just after 3pm on May 16.

Geography award

A YOUNG Witney geography genius has been awarded with a special honour for achieving the highest marks nationally in 2017's GCSE examinations.

Holly Taylor, from Bartholomew School, Witney, was recognised in the Royal Geographical Society's Excellence Awards for her performance in her geography GCSE.

Steve Brace, the Society's head of education and outdoor learning, said the award reflects Holly's abilities as a young geographer and the commitment of her geography teacher.

>> Oxford United launch eSports team
Page 15

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News

Buildings honoured for architectural excellence

By George Welch

A GROUP of award-winning new and renovated buildings will compete with the best the UK has to offer in architectural excellence after triumphing at regional awards.

The Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) last week progressed four Oxford buildings from its South Awards 2018, singling out two buildings for special praise.

The Sultan Nazrin Shah Centre at Worcester College won the Royal Institute of British Architects' South Building of the Year Award.

Meanwhile, the New Library at the Queen's College scooped the RIBA South Conservative Award.

The Big Data Institute in Old Road and the Hubert Perrodo Building at St Peter's College were also winners on the 12-strong shortlist.

However, The College Hub at Kellog College missed out.

Oxfordshire won half of the eight awards handed out in the south region. Berkshire won two, while Buckinghamshire and Hampshire were given one each.

Adrian James, regional jury chair, said: "Oxford generally dominates the architecture of the region. The university and the colleges have an eye-popping track record as patrons and that tradition shows no sign of waning.

South building of the year: The Sultan Nazrin Shah Centre
Picture: *Nick Kane*

South conservative award: New Library at Queen's College
Picture: *Jim Stephenson*

"The standard of the submitted buildings in Oxford this year was quite superb. Most should achieve national and even international recognition."

All winners from the regionals, including the four from Oxford, will now go through as contenders for RIBA's national awards next month.

Caitlin's inspirational boxes

AN inspirational young Oxfordshire entrepreneur was a cut above the rest after her £10 business idea collected a top award.

Caitlin Hope, 12, from Icknield Community College, was given £10 and four weeks to set up a business and make as much profit as she could as part of the National Tenner Challenge.

Caitlin won the Most Inspiring Individual Award for her company Buddy in a Box ahead of 27,179 other students at a ceremony on May 9, held at the Bank of England.

Caitlin's Buddy in a Box idea aimed to help tackle depression, anxiety and mental health issues with tokens of kindness in small gift boxes others could buy for friends and family.

Assistant head teacher Vicky Pickford said: "Tenner has been a fantastic opportunity for students to experience the challenges of starting a new business – for example, the students have developed problem solving skills and resilience."

The Tenner programme, supported by Business Growth Fund, provides students with real money for their business idea to gain first-hand experience of what it's like to be an entrepreneur.

At the end of the month participants return their £10 pledges with a £1 legacy donation to Young Enterprise and can keep the remaining profits.

Caitlin opted to give the profits from Buddy in a Box to Rosie's Rainbow Fund which helps sick and disabled children.

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News

InBrief

Family farm visits

PET sheep, enjoy tractor rides and admire a green energy solar panel scheme as part of national Open Farm Sunday on June 10.

D'Oyleys Farm at Sheephouse, near Stadhampton, will welcome visitors free of charge from 10am to 4pm.

Visitors will be able to tour the 5MW solar farm which powers 1,500 homes at Hill Farm at Duns Tew.

Contact info@doyleysfarm.co.uk and charleslandless@btinternet.com for more information.

Enjoy the buzz

CHARITY the Wychwood Project is inviting people to explore the world of bees on a walk through the woodlands.

Visitors to the three-hour event will hunt for bumble bee friendly plants and habitats led by a leading ecologist.

Meet at 10am in Chipping Norton Leisure Centre car park on June 13.

Visit wychwoodproject.org for more.

New head at college

A SCIENTIST will take over as principal at Oxford's St Edmund Hall college in October.

Professor Katherine Willis will succeed Keith Gull on October 1.

She has been the director of science at the Royal Botanic Gardens in Kew since October 2013.

She is married to Andrew Gant, the Liberal Democrat leader on the city council, and they have three children.

From lab to pub for scientists with pint or two of knowledge

By George Welch

SCIENTISTS swapped the lab for the pub to serve beer lovers spirited discussion, pondering everything from cybercrime to Brexit.

Punters drank in unique talks, demonstrations and close-up experiments when more than 30 scientists and experts popped up in city watering holes last week.

The popular extravaganza proved science does not have to be stuffy, with boffins' fascinating facts and figures washed down each evening with science-inspired activities including live experiments, quizzes and games.

Fourteen of the 18 events as part of the three-day event across the city sold out.

Oxford researchers spoke about a variety of topics at public places across the city including St Aldates Tavern, Turl Street Kitchen, The Jericho Tavern, Oxford Retreat, House Bar and Wig and Pen.

An Oxford University senior researcher highlighted the significance of cybercrime today in a talk at St Aldates Tavern.

Unique event: Jason Nurse gave a talk about cybercrime while Anna Machin shared science secrets of new fathers

He said: "I love to participate in public engagement activities, and with Pint of Science, it's really unique as it's science in the comfort of a pub.

"It was a great event and I honestly believe everyone went away with a better understanding of online security and how to protect themselves from cyber crime. I even learned lots from the audience."

Fellow Oxford academic Anna Machin hosted one of the sold out educational-cum-alcohol talks, with her speciality being on what happens in the brain and body of new fathers.

She said: "I love speaking at Pint of Science because it gives me the chance to tell the public directly about my work and get their feedback.

"They are always a great, engaged audience and their questions often lead me to develop whole new areas of research – it's invaluable."

Thousands of scientists spoke in nearly 300 cities across 21 countries as part of this year's Pint of Science event.

The festival was established six years ago by a group of UK-based postgraduate and postdoctoral researchers wanting to make science more understandable.

Oxford publicity and website manager Jessica Davies said: "I am passionate about making the latest science accessible to the public.

"Pint of Science is a brilliant opportunity for this, and it's amazing how far across the world it extends – this year 21 countries and nearly 300 cities got involved."

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Starting a cycling chain reaction

AN Oxfordshire councillor is pedalling the cause for more residents to take up cycling as a means to get fit and healthy.

Oxfordshire's cycling champion, Cllr Suzanne Bartington, said getting on a bike rather than hopping in the car for the daily commute can improve fitness and help the environment.

She said: "Figures show that people who cycle to work have a 45 per cent lower risk of developing cancer and 46 per cent lower risk of cardiovascular disease, compared to using the car or public transport.

"People who cycle regularly in mid-adulthood typically enjoy a level of fitness equivalent to someone 10 years younger and their life expectancy is two years above the average – all great reasons to add cycling to your daily routine."

Cllr Bartington regularly meets with cycling groups to help develop a long-term vision for cycling in the county.

The Witney-based councillor competed in the Bike Oxford event on Saturday, taking part in the 50mile ride through the city's historic centre before venturing out into the heart of the Cotswolds.

She added: "Cycling is one of the best ways to fit exercise into your daily routine and is a great form of transport as well, saving you money, getting you fit and helping the environment."

Gearing up: County councillor Suzanne Bartington took part in her second Bike Oxford event on Sunday

Ex MP's attack on state of roads

A FORMER Oxfordshire MP launched a stinging attack on the county council and its management of the county's roads following a 'chaotic' journey into Oxford.

Nicola Blackwood, who represented Oxford West and Abingdon between 2010 and 2017, sprung a tirade of complaints on the highways agency on Twitter earlier this month.

The Conservative said the government was right not to devolve further powers when Oxfordshire County Council "just keeps getting it wrong with its current responsibilities".

Ms Blackwood posted: "Chaotic journey into Oxford tonight. Lanes closed, gridlock, very dark with poor signs and several accidents.

"No sign of any actual work being done."

She added the hashtag #musttryharder at the end of her tweet.

OCC responded by asking Ms Blackwood which route she was taking and for more specific details of the problems she encountered.

She had not given further details by the time we went to press.

Conservative county councillor Liam Walker, who represents Hanborough and Minster Lovell, suggested Ms Blackwood got the train instead.

He said: "Sounds so 'chaotic' – lanes are closed for work to be done safely.

"It generally is dark at night, this isn't the fault of the council.

"Other drivers seem to be able to see signs [and] accidents are not the fault of OCC.

"Perhaps get the train if it's all so bad on the roads."

Fighting fraud and IT hackers

FAKE online auctions, bogus tech support requests and social media hackers have made Thames Valley the third most targeted police force area in the UK for online scams.

A report by internet service provider TalkTalk, who worked with Action Fraud to analyse Home Office data, found 5,090 cases of online scams reported in the Thames Valley between October 2015 and September 2017.

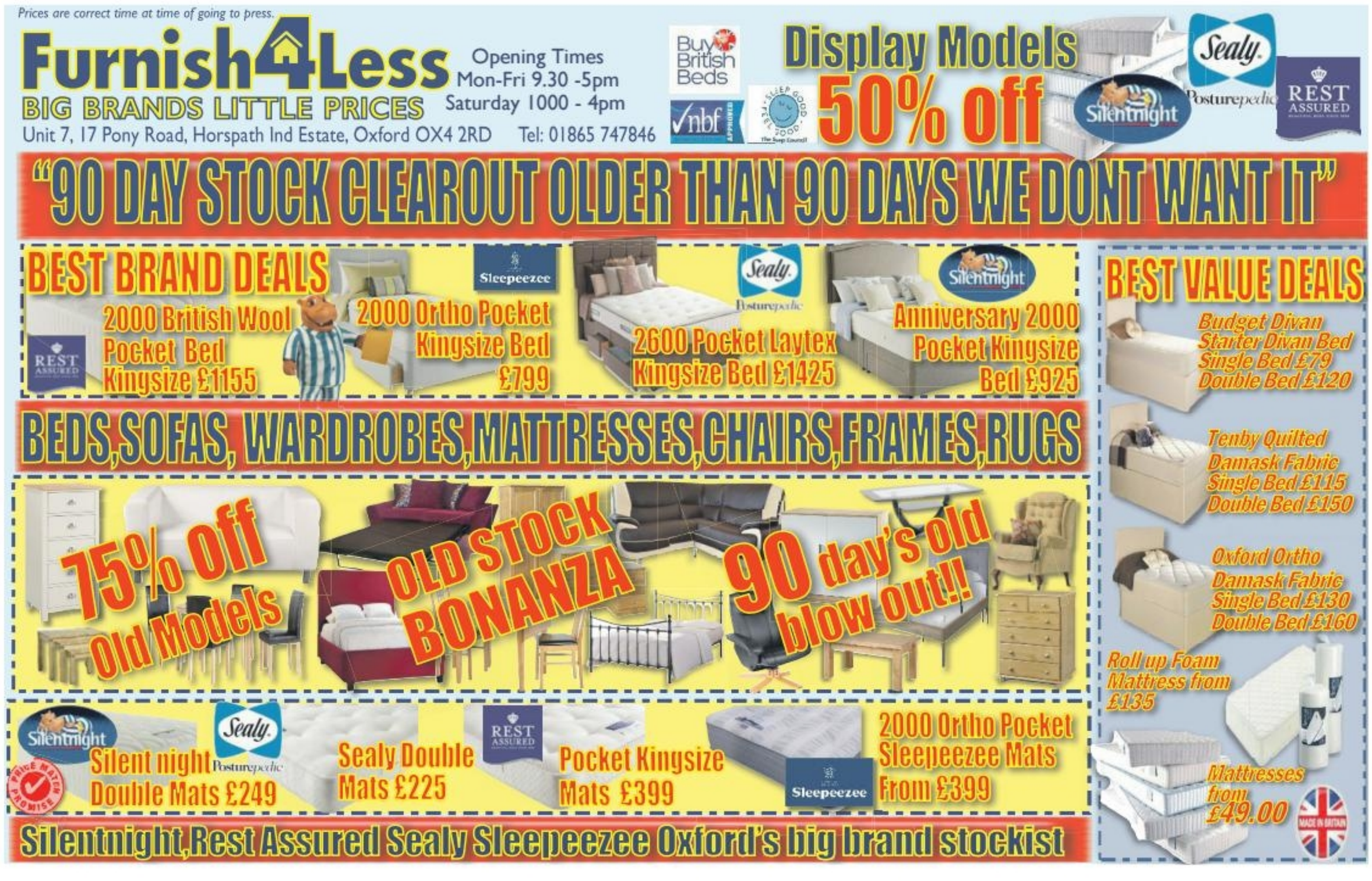
Online shopping and auctions (2,455 cases), computer software service fraud (1,990), email/social media hacks (351), personal computer hacks (225) and extortion (69) were the most popular forms of fraud.

Donna Moore, Head of Scam Prevention at TalkTalk said: "Scams are becoming increasingly sophisticated crimes that affect the whole country."

A spokesperson for Thames Valley Police, said: "We would advise members of the public to take all precautions to protect themselves from cybercrime.

"Our recent Protect Your World Campaign gave information on how to stay safe online such as regularly changing passwords, having up to date virus software and not giving out personal details."

People concerned they may be a victim of a cybercrime should report it to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 or visit https://bit.ly/2yWfw9A



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Smoking in bed causes flat fire

AN Oxford flat was engulfed in flames within six minutes after a man smoking in bed set fire to his sheets.

Fire crews from Blue Watch, Rewley Road and Slade fire stations in the city attended the flat fire in Greys Road, Headington just before 9pm on May 13.

The bedding caught alight and the fire rapidly spread throughout the property. The emergency services did not specify whether the man had fallen asleep prior to the fire.

By the time crews arrived six minutes later the flat was completely up in flames, the service said.

Residents in the property escaped with minor smoke inhalation after being alerted by smoking alarms.

Crew manager Lewis Sigsworth said: "It is very important that people are aware of the dangers of smoking in bed and the need to have working smoke alarms."

Not up to it on the pitch, try out virtual football?

By George Welch

TWO of Oxfordshire's most well-known sports teams have ventured into virtual reality by launching eSports teams.

Grove-based Williams will primarily compete in Formula 1's eSports Series later this year while Oxford United will battle virtual opponents in leagues and cup competitions on Fifa 2018 for the Playstation 4.

United have partnered up with Virtual Pro Gaming, a virtual football website, with trials for the first and reserve teams earlier this month.

More than 30,000 people play VPG leagues from more than 80 countries and, more broadly, the global eSports market generated nearly $493million in 2016. Its audience the previous year was 226 million people.

U's spokesman Chris Williams said it was a 'really exciting' project for the club, which has first and reserve teams, to be involved in.

He said: "Virtual sports are growing all the time and millions of people are involved.

"VPG have been trying it out already and are half way through their current season; the feedback is excellent and we look forward to featuring news and updates on our social media pages and on the official Youtube channel."

Goal: Be a virtual player with Oxford United

Meanwhile, Javier Guerra, the founder of JIM Racing, a Spanish simulator racing team founded in 2011, will be responsible for Williams' eSports activities in the sim racing world.

With the exception of Ferrari, all current Formula 1 teams have committed to setting up and entering their own eSports teams in the second edition of the virtual world championship, which uses the official licensed Codemasters games on all platforms.

The first three drivers signed to the Williams eSports roster are Javier Perez, Jani Vitsaniemi and Bernardo Perez.

The trio will be given the opportunity to work and train at the team's base in Grove, as well as a chance to work in Williams' simulator.

Competitions will be run during the season for gamers to earn their place on the roster for a variety of sim racing tournaments.

"eSports has grown dramatically in recent years to become a huge global industry, so we're eager to take on the challenge of growing sim racing's place in the eSports world," Guerra said.

InBrief

Exhibition at church

ARTISTS are displaying their masterpieces in Abingdon as part of a month-long celebration of art.

The Abbey Group, is hosting the exhibition until Saturday at St Nicolas Church.

Cards, prints and housewares will also be available to purchase at the exhibition which opens 10am to 4pm today (Thursday), and until 5pm tomorrow (Friday) and Saturday.

Author's signing

FORMER UK Children's Laureate Chris Riddell will visit Waterstones in Oxford to sign copies of his new book, Ottoline and the Purple Fox.

He will be at the Broad Street store on Saturday at 11am.

Mr Riddell is a highly acclaimed illustrator and political cartoonist and the bestselling children's author of books including the award-winning Ottoline and Goth Girl series.

The 56-year-old is a cartoonist for the Observer.

Horse health survey

VETERAN eventer Mary King and her daughter Emily are backing a scheme aimed at improving the health and wellbeing of horses.

The medal winning pair visited Blue Cross's rehoming centre in Burford to launch this year's National Equine Health Survey, which aims to identify trends in the health and welfare of horses, ponies, donkeys and mules.

Explaining the challenges: Deirdre Nic Sitric addresses delegates

Helping girls with autism

TEACHING and support staff were brought together to offer guidance on managing mental health challenges in girls with autism.

Begbroke-based LVS Oxford, a special school for young people with autism, welcomed guest speaker Deirdre Nic Sitric, from Autism Champions, to help improve the understanding of girls' experience of autism.

More men and boys are currently diagnosed as autistic than women and girls – but research from the National Autistic Society shows many autistic traits in females are not recognised.

This can result in misdiagnosis, late diagnosis, or women and girls not being diagnosed at all.

Amelia Dean, a sixth former at LVS Oxford who was diagnosed with autism in Year 5, said: "I always found it very hard to explain how I was feeling and always felt like the odd one out.

"I joined LVS Oxford in September 2017 and this has been the first school that has been positive for me."

The school had a Girls with Autism conference in December and the latest training session highlighted the need for a greater understanding of what it feels like to be a girl with autism, head of school Louisa Allison-Bergin said.

'Odd one out': Amelia Dean

She added: "A high percentage of girls with autism feel like the odd one out."

Raise a copa to the return of popular gin festival

GIN lovers here are some dates for your diary – October 5 to 7 will welcome the return of last year's popular festival.

GinFestival.com returns to Oxford Town Hall and this year they've shaken things up by giving a free drink with your ticket.

From small craft distilleries using local botanicals to exotic examples of contemporay gins, there promises to be something for every palate.

For more details and to book go to www.ginfestival.com/events

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News

InBrief

More peak seats

THE new Oxford to London train timetable is now in force.

Chiltern Railways' summer and autumn timetable includes an extra 1,360 seats during the evening peak from Sunday onwards.

There will also be a new Friday night train leaving London Marylebone at 11.35pm, stopping at Bicester Village and Oxford Parkway.

The 16.50, 17.18, 17.50 and 19.50 London Marylebone to Oxford trains will all have extra seats.

Countryfile returns

BBC Countryfile Live returns to Blenheim Palace this summer with a musical twist.

The UK's biggest-selling country act The Shires and acoustic guitar star Newton Faulkner will headline an all-new musical stage.

The four-day festival with live arena shows, hands-on activities, farm animal demonstrations, food, drink and shopping, runs from August 2 to 5.

Visit countryfilelive.com for more tickets and more information.

Voting rights

TENANTS of Oxfordshire-based Soha Housing have been given the legal right to vote on the company's decisions.

The housing association revealed its move to become a mutual, saying it gives "real power" to the people Soha serves.

Charity of the year 2018 – Helen & Douglas House

Clear out your clutter, it could be somebody else's treasure

By George Welch

Oxfordshire Guardian & THE OXFORD PAPER Supporting Helen & Douglas House hospice care for children and young adults

WE'RE a nation of hoarders – it's a fact.

We sit on at least £572 each in untouched clothing – that's more than 365 million abandoned dresses, coats and shirts – according to VoucherCodes.

But it doesn't have to be that way.

A good declutter can not only free your home – but your pre-loved goods could also be the 'treasure' of those in need.

Helen & Douglas House is asking the people of Oxfordshire to declutter their homes and wardrobes this month and donate unwanted items to one of its 15 shops across the county.

Every item donated will raise money for the East Oxford charity, making a real difference to the lives of families with terminally ill children and young adults.

Each bag of donations could be worth £30, enough for a nurse to visit a terminally ill child at home.

Books, bric-a-brac, clothes, shoes, accessories, electrical items and furniture can all be donated – and there's even a free collection service for the latter.

Marie McVicar, mum of Ollie who died aged seven and loved going to Helen House, urged people to dig out their old 'stuff'.

She said: "The love and support we received from Helen & Douglas House over the years and especially towards the end means so much to us as a family.

"Please declutter and donate to your local Helen & Douglas House shop, as the charity needs you to help families like us."

Chris Coe, director of retail at Helen & Douglas House, said donations are 'desperately needed' to support terminally ill youngsters and their families.

He added: "Many of us fill our homes with things we don't use and sometimes don't even like, or have outgrown. If have clutter in your home or wardrobe, this is a great time to have a clear out.

"Many people don't realise that your unwanted item could be our treasure and [donations] will not only prevent huge waste and prevent topping up tips and landfill sites, but will actually make a real difference to the lives of local families."

To find your nearest Helen & Douglas House shop visit www.hdh.org.uk.

Time to tidy out: Staff members Emma, left and Stacey promote the declutter challenge with Ellie, Peter and Alex

Helen & Douglas House hospice care for children and young adults

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Ex-air traffic controller is county chairman

A FORMER air traffic controller has flown to the top job in Oxfordshire County Council.

County councillor Gill Sanders will take on the role of chairman after a career that began as one of the country's first female air traffic control assistants.

The former lord mayor of Oxford has been a county councillor since 2012 and served as a city councillor for 26 years before standing down this year.

She was vice chairman of the council in 2017/18 and worked closely with husband Cllr John Sanders during his spell as chairman in 2014/15.

The role of chairman is the authority's equivalent of a mayor at town or city councils.

She said working as an air traffic control assistant surrounded by men gave her a "really good grounding" and built her confidence.

"I thought to myself 'if you can do this you can do anything you want to'," she said.

Originally from Swansea, the mother of two and grandmother has lived in Oxford for 41 years.

She has chosen to support homeless charity The Porch and Rose Hill Junior Youth Club during her year as chairman.

Remembering the victims of Grenfell blaze

CAMPAIGNERS in Oxford gathered to hold a vigil in memory of the Grenfell tower victims nearly one year on from the tragedy.

More than 80 people supported the Oxford Stand Up to Racism Justice for Grenfell event on Monday last week with city councillors and Oxford students gathered in the city centre.

June 14 will mark the one year anniversary of the tower block blaze in London in which 72 people died when dangerous cladding caught fire.

The Oxford event coincided with a petition lodged with the government calling for Grenfell victims and their families to have the right to speak through legal representation at the public inquiry.

Cllr Shaista Aziz and Cllr Lubna Arshad spoke at the vigil in front of students from Balliol, Wadham and Sommerville colleges, while Oxford poet Rip Buckley delivered a sonnet leading a minute's silence.

Ian Mckendrick, from Oxford Stand Up To Racism, said: "The Grenfell survivors and the families of the victims have every right to be worried about the conduct of the public inquiry.

"It is vital a spotlight is shone to uncover all the factors that lead to the Grenfell disaster to make sure it never happens again."

Tragedy: Campaigners gathered to remember those who died

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Contact Bev 07895 059079

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Didcot, OX11 0BS
Mondays: 5.30pm & 7.30pm
Contact Laura 07879 410949

DIDCOT
Didcot Civic Hall, Britwell Road
Didcot, OX11 7JN
Tuesdays: 9.30am, 11.30am, 5pm & 7pm
Contact Carol: 07788 132541

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Contact Nicki 07596 528548
(Parking at the Beacon)

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Contact Bev 07895 059079

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Contact Kev 07568 092964

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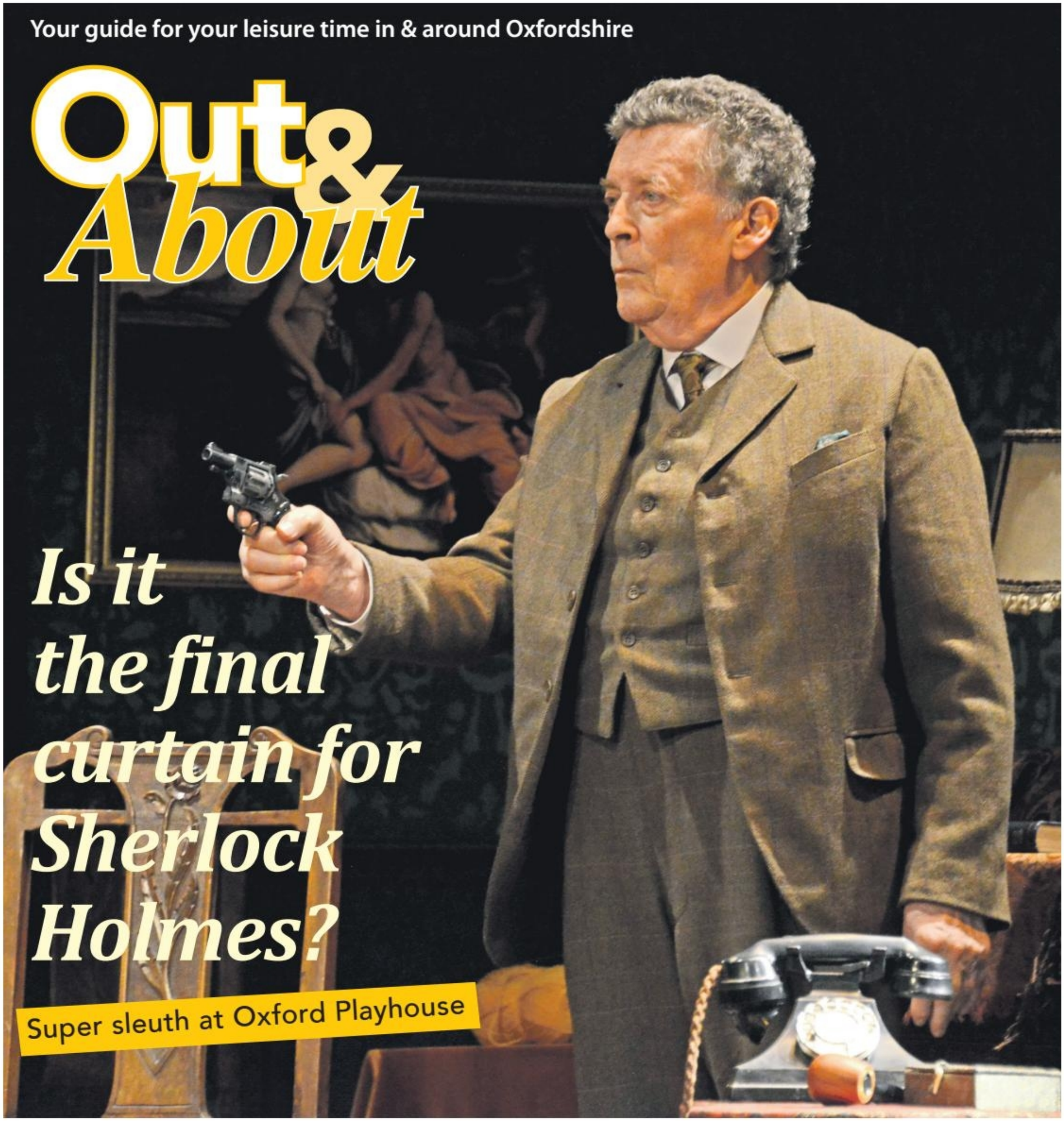
Out & About



Is it the final curtain for Sherlock Holmes?

Super sleuth at Oxford Playhouse

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Out & About

Curtain falls for Holmes

By Samantha McGregor

TWO of the UK's most popular actors Robert Powell and Liza Goddard are set to star in a gripping new thriller, Sherlock Holmes: The Final Curtain.

Holmes lives in retirement on the South Coast, he keeps bees, occasionally casts his fly fishing rod, even plays his Stradivarius when the rheumatism allows.

All too aware that he's older and slower, he's concerned that he might have lost his touch and paranoid that he is an easy target for his enemies.

So, when Mary Watson, the wife of his former associate Dr John Watson, tracks him down to tell him she has seen her long-dead son, James, through the window of 221B Baker Street, apparently alive and well, Holmes is determined to solve the mystery and confront his own demons at the same time.

Chilling and filled with unforeseen twists and revelations, this new play featuring Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's legendary super sleuth has been commissioned by Theatre Royal Bath from award-winning dramatist Simon Reade, who was previously literary manager at the Royal Shakespeare Company.

This world premiere production reunites the dream team of Robert Powell and Liza Goddard following huge acclaim for their performances in Alan Ayckbourn's Relatively Speaking.

Robert, who is best known for his role in Jesus of Nazareth, also played the fictional secret agent Richard Hannay and Mark Williams in BBC One medical drama Holby City.

While Liza Goddard's career goes back to the 1960s, with roles in shows including Skippy the Bush Kangaroo, Minder, Watch This Space, Doctor Who and Bergerac, and was the subject of This is your Life in 1984.

The production takes to the Oxford Playhouse stage from Monday, June 11 to Saturday, June 16.

Tickets start at £10 and are available from the ticket office on 01865 305305 or at oxfordplayhouse.com

Get set for some mischief

MISCHIEF Theatre, the multi award-winning company behind the global smash hit comedy The Play That Goes Wrong, return to the city with their new production.

Taking to the Oxford Playhouse from June 6 to 10, Mischief Movie Night, is an improvised movie live on stage.

The show, which was nominated for the 2018 Olivier Award for Best New Comedy, stars the original cast and creators of The Play That Goes Wrong, Peter Pan Goes Wrong and The Comedy About a Bank Robbery on stage, and BBC TV Christmas Specials A Christmas Carol Goes Wrong and Peter Pan Goes Wrong.

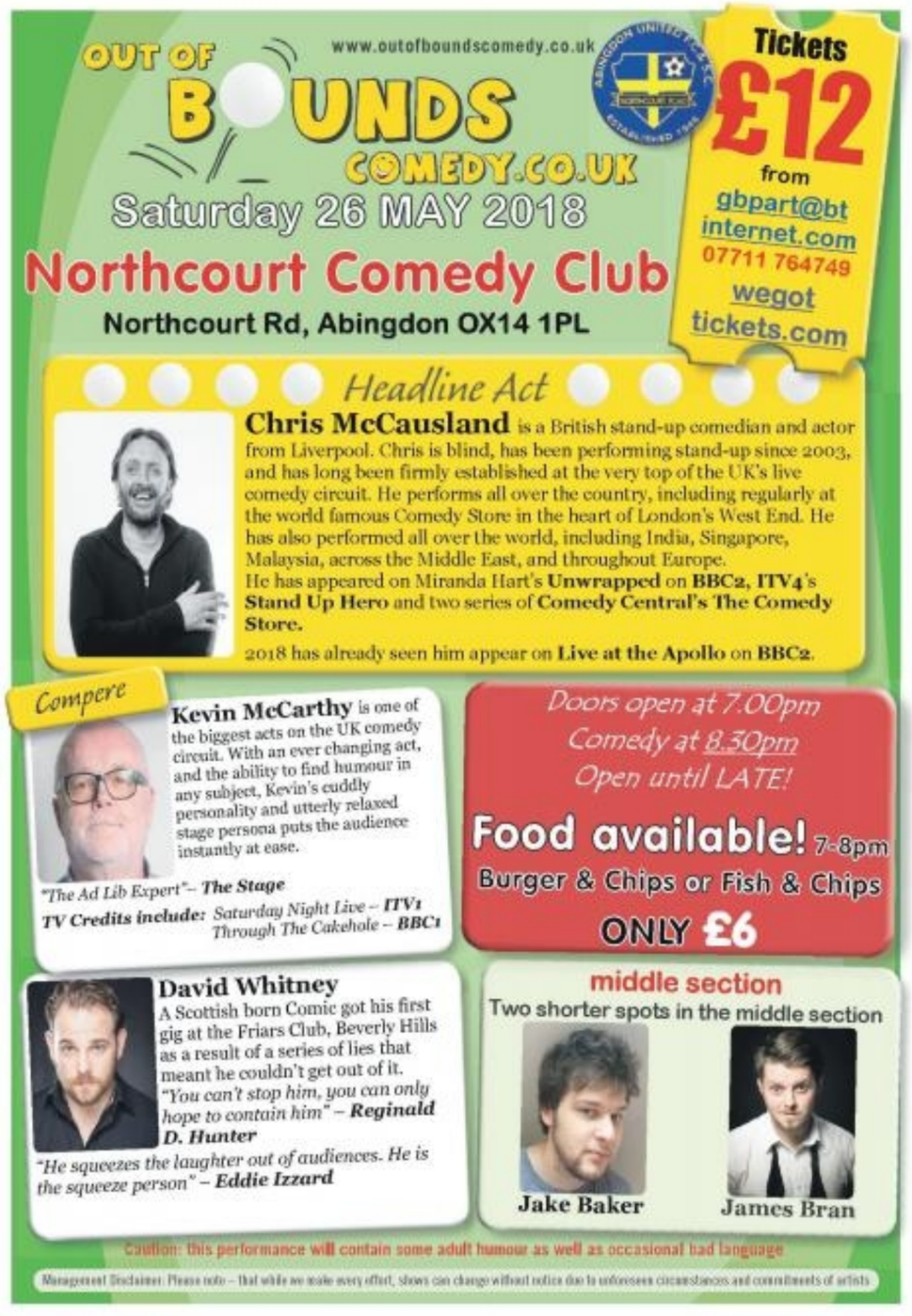
Mischief Movie Night invites the audience to direct the action, suggesting a genre, location and title and a movie is brought to life on stage, complete with rewinds, fast forwards, directors cuts and a live score.

Charlie Russell, of Mischief Theatre, said: "It's a joy to bring Mischief Movie Night to such welcoming venues, all of which have played to 100 per cent capacity with our Goes Wrong shows.

"Returning to our improv roots is very special for us as this is where it all began. We're very excited!"

Mischief Theatre was founded in 2008 by a group of graduates of The London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA) and began as an improvised comedy group.

Tickets for Mischief Movie Night at Oxford Playhouse start at £10 and are available from the ticket office on 01865 305305 or view oxfordplayhouse.com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Headline Act
Chris McCausland is a British stand-up comedian and actor from Liverpool. Chris is blind, has been performing stand-up since 2003, and has long been firmly established at the very top of the UK's live comedy circuit. He performs all over the country, including regularly at the world famous Comedy Store in the heart of London's West End. He has also performed all over the world, including India, Singapore, Malaysia, across the Middle East, and throughout Europe.
He has appeared on Miranda Hart's Unwrapped on BBC2, ITV4's Stand Up Hero and two series of Comedy Central's The Comedy Store.
2018 has already seen him appear on Live at the Apollo on BBC2.
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Close friends, poles apart

By Samantha McGregor

On stage: Andy Greaves in rehearsal for Castaways

OXFORD-BASED Mandala Theatre are gearing up to bring their newly-commissioned social justice play to the city.

Mandala Theatre tackles contemporary concerns about identity, race and displacement among young people from diverse communities.

Castaways, written by award-winning young playwright Atiha Sen Gupta, is about what happens when close friends are divided by a single, shattering event.

Yasmin Sidhwa, Mandala's founder, who directed the show said: "We've developed the play by holding workshops with young people in Oxford and other cities – and we'll be giving audiences a chance to respond in post-show discussions across the country."

She continued: "The issues we deal with could not be more relevant in today's society where communities are becoming more and more divided.

"We're lucky to have received funding to explore this with marginalised young people – and our tour plan is designed to take in cities where migration, radicalisation and alienation are widespread."

Since its inception in 2015, Mandala Theatre Company have been making a name for themselves with a programme of newly-commissioned work which tackles matters of social justice in new and exciting ways.

Their first play, Night Light, saw the company's young actors shine a spotlight on young people seeking asylum.

Now, Castaways explores community and tribal loyalties among three friends, born on the same day, in the same town but with very different backgrounds.

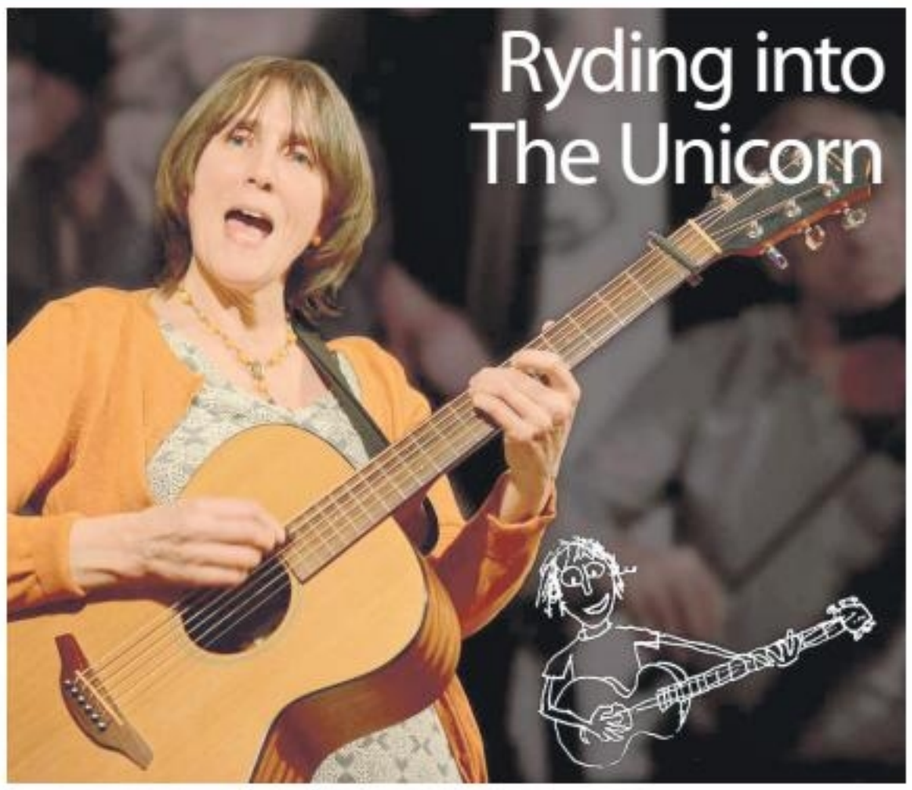
The show will take place at The Old Fire Station on June 1 and 2, showing at various times.

Tickets start from £6 and can be purchased from oldfirestation.org.uk or by calling 01865 263980.

The show is suitable for ages 13 and over.

There will be a chance to talk about the issues raised in the play at a post-show discussion.

Ryding into The Unicorn



Heading to the Unicorn Theatre in Abingdon next month is the talented singer-songwriter Anna Ryder.

The multi-instrumentalist's songs are consistently original and inventive.

She combines a captivating stage presence with an endearing naivety that reaches out to the audience. Her musical style, although based in folk, spans many genres.

She has performed mainly on the folk scene, playing venues from small clubs to large festivals.

2016 marked Anna's sixth album, the long-awaited The Art of Making Faces and she is now working on her seventh.

As well as her solo work, Anna is part of the trio IOTA playing with Marion Fleetwood and Sally Barker.

MOJO magazine recently described her as "a rare originality. A singer-songwriter with depth and integrity".

The gig will take place on June 14 at 7pm with music starting at 7.15pm.

Full price tickets cost £15. For more information or to book visit musicattheunicorn.org.uk

All profits from the theatre go into improving the facilities and into bringing an even greater variety of talented bands, singers and instrumentalists to Abingdon.

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Out & About

Some of the best love songs of rock 'n' roll era? You decide

By Josh Cox

CELEBRATING the 30th anniversary of their first singles collection Tommy, The Wedding Present will be playing a series of dates.

Tommy was a compilation album that collated the band's first four singles, accompanying sides and a few selected tracks from two early BBC Radio 1 sessions.

Released in July 1988, on The Wedding Present's own record label, Reception Records, it provides an overview of The Wedding Present's frenetic output just after their debut album, George Best.

Over their time, The Wedding Present have had 18 UK Top 40 hit singles and performed in concert halls, stadiums and festivals the world over.

Last year the band celebrated the 30th anniversary of their debut album George Best with a re-release George Best 30 and a UK wide tour which acquired much success.

Their hits include My Favourite Dress, It's Not Always So Stupid, Kennedy and Make Me Smile.

Since 1985, the bands livelihood has been led by vocalist and guitarist David Gedge, who also happens to be the only constant member.

Long-time BBC Radio 1 DJ John Peel described David as "the boy Gedge has written some of the best love songs of the 'rock 'n' roll' era. You may dispute this but I'm right and you're wrong!"

As well as a vast number of albums, Gedge has appeared in TV and film, founded the mini festival At The Edge of The Sea, worked with BBC Radio 1 on numerous occasions and even released a comic book.

Among the long list of tour dates is a stop at Oxford's O2 Academy on June 7.

Tickets are £20.25. To book visit o2academyoxford.co.uk

Wilde production of Earnest

Oscar Wilde's cherished The Importance of Being Earnest is taking to the stage at Oxford Town Hall next month, but not quite as you may know it.

Already one of the nation's funniest plays, Split Second Productions have been making their unique mark re-telling the story with two actors playing every single character.

Quick-changes, tap dancing, fabulous frocks and enough tea to sink a ship awaits audiences on June 3.

The tour is stopping at manor houses, town halls and castles around the UK, set to the back drop of some of the most exquisite drawing rooms and great halls that this country has to offer – Lady Bracknell would certainly approve.

Bryan Hodgson, the writer and creator of this innovative adaptation will co-direct the show, following his acclaimed and award-nominated productions in London.

Alongside him is Jaq Bessell, who has worked across Europe, in London, at the RSC, The Globe and in New York.

The performances will take place at 2.30pm and 7.30pm. Tickets begin from £15.

To book go to splitsecond productions.com

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GIVING THE BANK OF MUM AND DAD A BOOST WITH EQUITY RELEASE

In today's expensive property market your home could help put your children on the property ladder

The first steps onto the property ladder can be a daunting challenge. With house prices continuing to increase, that first property can appear further away than ever for the UK's would-be first-time buyers[1]. This has seen an increasing turn towards the "Bank of Mum and Dad", for financial support. Recent research indicates that the average amount lent to children by their parents for support in the property market is over £18,000, although a significant number – 41pc – cannot offer this financial support[2].

For over-55 UK homeowners there is a way to use the value of your property to give the "Bank of Mum and Dad" a timely financial boost. The home that you have been responsibly investing in for years could turn out to be your secret later life cash reserve. A lifetime mortgage, the most popular way of releasing equity, could allow you to access your property wealth in a way that is convenient, flexible, and secure. With the equity released you could then give your nearest and dearest the leg-up onto the property ladder they may need.

There are a range of lifetime mortgage options available to suit your circumstances. A drawdown lifetime mortgage would give you an immediate tax-free cash lump sum, which could be gifted to your children as a contribution towards a house deposit. The remainder of the equity you have released is then kept in an interest free reserve, ready for when you need it. This option can help mitigate the build-up of interest.

By choosing a lifetime mortgage provided by an Equity Release Council approved lender, you can take comfort in several important guarantees. You and your partner retain full ownership of your property for the duration of your lives, or until you enter fulltime care. A no negative equity guarantee also means that you will never owe more than the value of your home at the end of the plan.

The money you have access to with a lifetime mortgage is yours to spend entirely as you wish. Why not find out today if your house could help boost the "Bank of Mum and Dad", and give your children an invaluable step-up onto the property market?

[1] The Guardian, 'House prices rise 5% a year in more bad news for would-be buyers', 17/10/17
[2] Financial Reporter, 'Bank of Mum and Dad lending £18,000 on average', 20/10/17

Could equity release help you? For more information call now and speak to Andy Pike at his Oxford Office - 01865 378718

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Our adviser, Andy Pike, based in Oxford, worked tirelessly on our behalf in arriving at a satisfactory outcome despite a valuation problem that my wife and I never anticipated. His prompt response to all our queries and tenacity in seeking answers and solutions from the lender cannot be praised highly enough. It was in all respects a highly-personal service. - **John Wright, 14th February 2018.**

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Out&About Competition

WIN a pair of tickets to Blenheim Palace for the Battle Proms Concert!

Closing date: Friday July 13, 2018

Pack up the hampers and champers and join thousands of loyal fans for an exceptional afternoon and evening of entertainment, as the Battle Proms returns to Blenheim Palace in Oxfordshire on Saturday 21st July.

We have 3 pairs of tickets to giveaway to this spectacular highlight of the summer calendar!

The concert includes a full programme of captivating classical music from the 60-piece New English Concert Orchestra complemented by toe-tapping vintage vocals, breathtaking Spitfire display to Elgar's Nimrod, sensational freefall demonstration by The Red Devils parachute team, dramatic WWI cavalry display and groundshaking live fire from over 200 cannons. Battle Proms concerts are still believed to be the only opportunity in the world to see their signature piece – Beethoven's 'Battle Symphony' – performed as he composed it: with 193 live firing Napoleonic cannons providing a thunderous percussion!

This quintessentially British 'party in the park' features magnificent musical firework displays, culminating in a flag waving, sing-a-long, firework spectacular including all the 'last night of the proms' finale favourites such as Jerusalem, Rule Britannia and Land of Hope and Glory.

Win tickets!

Are you ready to pack up the hampers and champers and enjoy an unforgettable night out at Blenheim Palace? We have 3 pairs of tickets to give away to this spectacular concert! To enter just answer the following simple question:

Q: How many cannons will be taking part in the Battle Proms?

Don't want to leave it to chance? For full details and to book tickets for this spectacular and memorable night out go to www.battleproms.com.

To enter this competition and more like it, go online to
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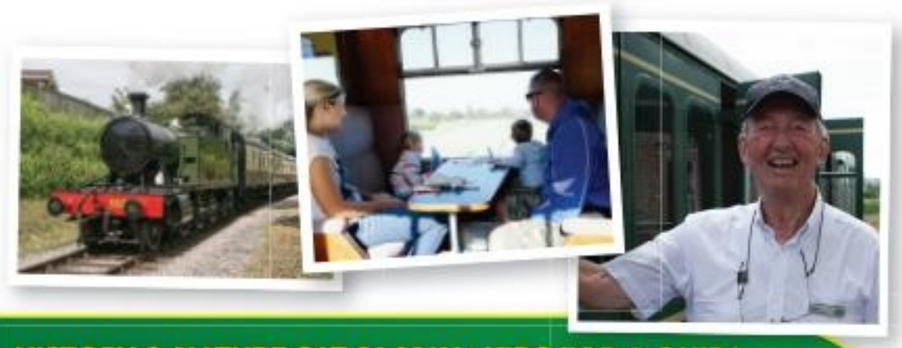

HISTORY & NATURE SAT 26 MAY - KIDS-FOR-A-QUID!
Vintage diesel railcar trip commentated by our in-house guides. Railcar departs Chinnor at 10.30, 12.00, 13.45, and 15.15.

STEAM ON BANK HOLIDAY SUN & MON 27 - 28 MAY KIDS-FOR-A-QUID!
Accompanied children 5-15 yrs just £1 each. Trains depart Chinnor at 11.00, 12.15, 13.30, 15.00 and 16.30. Classic Cars on display Sun 27 May.

OPEN DAY SAT 02 JUNE - FREE TO VISIT!
See behind the scenes at both Chinnor & Princes Risborough stations. Also free diesel railcar rides at Chinnor!

FATHER'S DAY SUN 17 JUNE - DAD TRAVELS FREE!
Make Dad's day special with a steam train ride. Trains depart Chinnor at 11.00, 12.15 (vintage diesel*), 13.30, 15.00 and 16.30.*

Free car parking, tea room and souvenir shop at Chinnor station. Book online or at the ticket office on arrival - see website for additional dates, fares and timetables.

Note: All dates with steam except 26 May and 02 June. Under 5 yrs travel FREE.

www.chinnorrailway.co.uk

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PAUL KING, Head of April King Legal

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Does this sound familiar to you?

"We've made our Wills, leaving everything to each other first and then to the children."

These are known as Mirror Wills. Sounds reassuring enough, doesn't it? But your children could end up with very little - or even nothing at all.

Dear Reader,

Where children's inheritance is concerned our clients want certainty. They want to know that their children will one day benefit from all their years of hard work. They usually come to us having already made standard Mirror Wills with another firm. But often doubts remain in their mind.

Modern family life has many twists and turns and clients worry that having left their estate directly to their children in their Will, what would happen if their son had relationship difficulties or their daughter had creditors pressing. Would their inheritance be taken away from them?

April King Legal are specialists in new style Bloodline Wills. Our free information pack shows you how we can update your Will to include bloodline protection for your children and grandchildren.

Kindest
Paul King

OUR FREE GUIDE SHOWS YOU...

- ☑ How to ensure a child's inheritance is protected from hostile third parties.
- ☑ The difference between joint tenants and tenants in-common.
- ☑ Why standard 'Mirror Wills' can put a child or other beneficiaries inheritance at risk.
- ☑ How to deal with estranged children in your Will.
- ☑ Lasting Power of Attorney and how they can help you and your family
- ☑ Making a Will for the first time.
- ☑ How to include or exclude step-children / step-grandchildren.

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"If you have a child who has separated but is yet to divorce then their ex is still next in line to inherit from them over and above your grandchildren from that marriage. Should your son or daughter inherit from you before their divorce is finalized then they could end up having to share that inheritance with their estranged spouse. April King's free information pack shows you ways to help prevent this happening and keep inheritance in the family bloodline."

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Out&About Competition

WIN tickets to The Classic & Sports Car Show in association with Flywheel

On 23-24 June, a fantastic collection of world-class classic competition cars, road cars and bikes – some over a century old – along with an impressive collection of military machines and vintage planes will descend on Bicester Heritage for The Classic & Sports Car Show in association with Flywheel. And you could win tickets for you and your family as we have two family passes up for grabs!

The spectacular event will play host to incredible live demonstrations both on the ground and in the air at the historic site, while the Show's Vintage Village will feature period fairground rides, live music performances, shopping and a huge range of food stalls.

Automobile lovers will delight at the spectacle from the finest that the classic car world has to offer, taking to the demo track to show off in glorious tyre-squealing style. Classic motor clubs will stage displays and the open-access paddock lets visitors get up close to these magnificent machines, while there will also be an impressive collection of historic military vehicles on display, and even passenger rides in the live-action tank arena!

Closing date: Thursday, June 14, 2018

Moving from the ground to the skies, there will be fantastic air displays of historic aircraft, including daily air displays from the Royal Air Force Battle of Britain Memorial Flight (BBMF) Dakota, the Bremont Great War Display Team and the magnificent trio that is the BBMF Spitfire, Hurricane and Lancaster.

The Bremont Great War Display will stage an exhilarating recreation of a WW1 'dogfight', with aircraft such as Sopwith and Fokker Dr1 triplanes showing just how nimble these early warbirds were. Also taking to the skies will be top display pilot and former British Female Aerobatic Champion Lauren Wilson, who will give a thrilling demonstration of the agility of her glorious, bright red Pitts Special aerobatic biplane.

Film buffs are also in for a treat as they'll be able to see filming spots that have been used for box office hits The Imitation Game and The Darkest Hour at Bicester Heritage, the UK's best preserved Second World War Bomber Station.

For your chance to win one of two family tickets to The Classic & Sports Car Show in association with Flywheel just answer the following simple question:

Q: What plane will Lauren Wilson be flying in her display?

A family ticket admits two adults and up to three children (aged 5-15), entry for children under five years is free, parking is also free.

Tickets for The Classic & Sports Car Show in association with Flywheel are on sale with advance tickets starting from £23 per adult, £10 per child (5-15) and £55 per family. Entry for children under the age of five years is free, as is parking. VIP package upgrades are also available, which include parking and hospitality.

For further information and to purchase tickets for Classic & Sports Car Show in association with Flywheel, visit www.classicandsportscarshow.com.

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Your weekly puzzle challenge

CROSS CODE

17	9	9	8	26	22	11	19	■	21	13	2	9
13	■	22	■	10	■	13	■	6	■	23	■	13
1	20	21	21	13	22	12	■	20	23	23	9	21
12	■	25	■	11	■	24	25	11	■	8	■	8
■	17	8	9	9	1	9	■	11	20	13	22	25
14	■	■	21	■	25	21	13	8	■	20	■	3
20	23	16	13	21	4	■	3	9	13	4	8	9
25	■	25	■	24	9	9	8	■	15	■	■	19
12	21	20	8	18	■	22	9	16	9	8	19	■
26	■	22	■	10	20	11	■	9	■	18	■	25
9	22	4	20	9	■	13	10	13	7	26	22	11
22	■	9	■	19	■	11	■	5	■	22	■	21
12	26	4	9	■	10	9	21	9	22	11	20	9

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8 L	9 E	10 M	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

Each number in our Cross Code grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. You have three letters in the control grid to start you off. Enter them in the appropriate squares in the main grid, then use your knowledge of words to work out which letters should go in the missing squares.

As you get the letters, fill in other squares with the same number in the main grid and control grid. Check off the alphabetical list of letters as you identify them.

MAGIC SQUARE

BEETROOT OVERDOSE

Using all 16 letters of the phrase above, form four words each of four letters which will fit in the grid to form a magic square in which the words can be read both horizontally and vertically.

Quiz Challenge

1. Which market town in North Yorkshire is home to both the Black Sheep Brewery and Theakston Brewery?
2. Which German composer died in a mental asylum in 1856?
3. The Oscar-nominated 2012 film Zero Dark Thirty, tells the story of whose death in 2011?
4. The logo of the French clothing manufacturer Lacoste features which creature?
5. The Ghan is a famous Australian passenger train covering the 1,851 miles between Darwin and which other city?
6. Which village in Leicestershire has the same name as a popular brand of meat substitute?
7. In golf, which country is to host the 2018 Ryder Cup?
8. What word is a ceremony of religious worship and a shot in tennis that begins play?
9. Scottish actor Ewen Bremner played SPC Shawn Nelson in which 2001 American war film directed by Ridley Scott?
10. Which TV show has been presented by Nick Hancock, Paul Merton and Frank Skinner?

NONAGRAM

P	A	Y
A	L	L
R	I	C

How many words of four letters or more can you make from this Nonagram? Each word must use the central letter, and each letter may be used only once. At least one word using all nine letters can be found.

Guidelines:
26 Good; 31 Very Good; 36 Excellent.

Any word found in the Concise Oxford Dictionary (Tenth Edition) is eligible with the following exceptions: proper nouns; plural nouns, pronouns and possessives; third person singular verbs; hyphenated words; contractions and abbreviations; vulgar slang words; variant spellings of the same word (where another variant is also eligible).

WORD PYRAMID

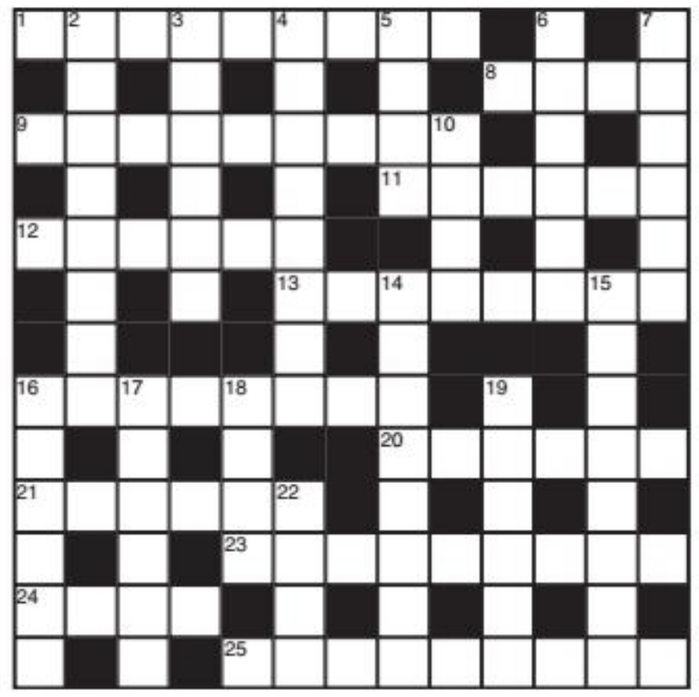
Spell out a 15-letter word or phrase by moving from one chamber to another within the pyramid. You may only enter each of the chambers once and may only proceed through openings in the walls. The first letter may appear in any chamber.

FIVE ALIVE

AD	EZ	CU	RA	EF
OP	■	ES	■	UV
PC	AR	UA	FS	TE
LK	■	SR	■	RO
ES	HM	PE	ET	NY

Here are two miniature five-square crosswords using the same grid – but the letters have been mixed up. You have to work out which letters belong to which crossword.

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1. Barbecue the home help with bromine oil (9)
8. Axe concealed by pithead zealots (4)
9. Wealthy ruler cut patrol out (9)
11. Remain for long in underwear that is taken off (6)
12. Settle completely what to do with parcel (4,2)
13. Theatre attendant? (8)
16. Little Cyril and a girl, say, take the tube (8)
20. Wily airmen in city I left (6)
21. Head teacher in messy, confused plan (6)
23. Failed to find an imperfection in the act (9)
24. Rod has a number in the drink (4)
25. Attempt to cover up a comprehensive defeat (9)

DOWN

2. Laughter when the girl swallows it (8)
3. Correct errors of printing (6)
4. Shortly went over the main points again (8)
5. Ian leaves European country-man at an angle shortly (4)
6. I go round after the woman slowly (6)
7. The initial mistake causes extreme fear (6)
10. Orderly receptacle (4)
14. Helicopters maybe used to cart fair around (8)
15. Newswoman resisted change (8)
16. Share the lead on firm's pitch (2-4)
17. Tally's adjusted in the final analysis (6)
18. Require key in the end strangely (4)
19. Immature animal takes everybody in (6)
22. Become entangled in the network (4)

SUDOKU

Easy Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9, and so must each 3 x 3 box. **Hard**

	9	6	8		3		4	
4			6	2	7	9		
	8	2					6	
	5	3				8		7
		4			9			5
			1				2	
6	7		2		8			9
				3			8	4
	4	8		9		2	7	6

		2	4					
5	4							2
				2			3	
4		6	8	7				
		1						
3	7		9					
	2			6			1	4
			5			7		
	6			4	7	5		

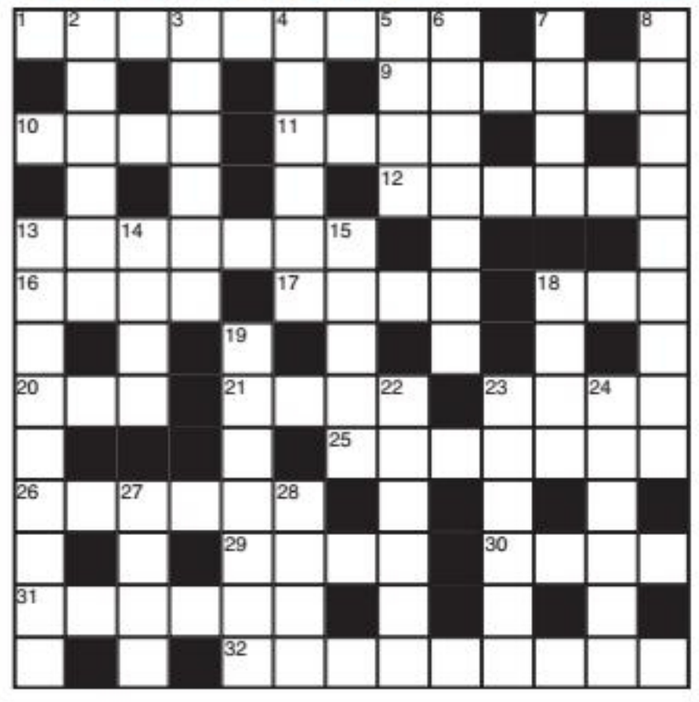
EQUALISER

8 7
7 ◯ 2 ◯ 4
2 2
10 ◯ 2 ◯ 1
2 1

Place the four signs (add, subtract, multiply, divide) one in each circle so that the total of each across and down line is the same.

Perform the first calculation in each line first and ignore the mathematical law which says you should always perform division and multiplication before addition and subtraction.

QUICK CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1. State of balance (9)
9. Tax (6)
10. Young sheep (4)
11. Fluster (inf.) (4)
12. Confused mass (6)
13. Obtain report from mission (7)
16. Middle Eastern country (4)
17. Fling up (4)
18. Incision (3)
20. Large deer (3)
21. Stopper (4)
23. Floor covering (inf.) (4)
25. ------- chip (7)
26. Oriental boat (6)
29. Curly cabbage (4)
30. Boy attendant (4)
31. Cycle for two (6)
32. Put back in place (9)

DOWN

2. Musical note (6)
3. Congenital (6)
4. Balance out (6)
5. Chair (4)
6. Wide area (7)
7. Monarch (4)
8. Depression (9)
13. Variety (9)
14. Rear (4)
15. Concentrate (5)
18. Stylish (4)
19. Orator (7)
22. Hebrew judge (6)
23. Clinging shellfish (6)
24. Chewy sweet (6)
27. Bill of fare (4)
28. Title (4)

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SOLUTIONS

QUIZ CHALLENGE: 1 Masham; 2 Robert Schumann; 3 Osama Bin Laden; 4 Crocodile; 5 Adelaide; 6 Quorn; 7 France; 8 Service; 9 Black Hawk Down; 10 Room 101.

CROSS CODE

1 C	2 K	3 B	4 D	5 V	6 J	7 Z	8 L	9 E	10 M	11 G	12 T	13 A
14 Q	15 X	16 W	17 F	18 Y	19 S	20 U	21 R	22 N	23 P	24 H	25 O	26 I

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD:
Across – 1 Charbroil; 8 Adze; 9 Plutocrat; 11 Linger; 12 Wrap up; 13 Playgoer; 16 Cylinder; 20 Crafty; 21 System; 23 Defaulted; 24 Axle; 25 Whitewash.
Down – 2 Hilarity; 3 Retype; 4 Recapped; 5 Ital; 6 Adagio; 7 Terror; 10 Tidy; 14 Aircraft; 15 Editress; 16 Co-star; 17 Lastly; 18 Need; 19 Callow; 22 Mesh.

QUICK CROSSWORD:
Across – 1 Equipoise; 9 Excise; 10 Lamb; 11 Flap; 12 Tangle; 13 Debrief; 16 Iran; 17 Toss; 18 Cut; 20 Elk; 21 Plug; 23 Lino; 25 Silicon; 26 Sampan; 29 Kale; 30 Page; 31 Tandem; 32 Reinstate.
Down – 2 Quaver; 3 Inborn; 4 Offset; 5 Seat; 6 Expanse; 7 King; 8 Dejection; 13 Diversity; 14 Back; 15 Focus; 18 Chic; 19 Speaker; 22 Gideon; 23 Limpet; 24 Nougat; 27 Menu; 28 Name.

WORD PYRAMID:
Air chief marshal.

EQUALISER:
Clockwise from top left – add; subtract; multiply; divide.
Total: 5.

MAGIC SQUARE:
sort; oboe; rove; teed.

HARD SUDOKU

9	1	2	4	3	6	8	5	7
5	4	3	7	8	9	1	6	2
6	8	7	1	2	5	4	3	9
4	5	6	8	7	3	2	9	1
2	9	1	6	5	4	3	7	8
3	7	8	9	1	2	6	4	5
7	2	5	3	6	8	9	1	4
8	3	4	5	9	1	7	2	6
1	6	9	2	4	7	5	8	3

EASY SUDOKU

5	9	6	8	1	3	7	4	2
4	3	1	6	2	7	9	5	8
7	8	2	9	5	4	3	6	1
1	5	3	4	6	2	8	9	7
9	6	7	1	8	5	4	2	3
8	2	4	3	7	9	6	1	5
6	7	5	2	4	8	1	3	9
2	1	9	7	3	6	5	8	4
3	4	8	5	9	1	2	7	6

FIVE ALIVE:
(1) Across – Azure; Pause; Empty.
Down – Apple; Usurp; Every.
(2) Across – Decaf; Craft; Sheen.
Down – Docks; Cease; Futon.

NONAGRAM:
acyl; alap; alar; allay; ally; apical; anil; aryl; call; calla; CAPILLARY; cant; carpal; cill; clap; clary; clay; clip; laciy; lacy; laic; laical; lair; lairy; lam; liar; lilac; lily; lipa; lira; lyric; lyrical; pail; pall; pally; paly; parlay; pill; pillar; play; playa; plica; plial; prill; racial; racially; racily; rail; rally; nal; nill.

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Our Cotswold accommodation offers five stylish ensuite guest rooms, which have an individual style by interior designer Jean Harrod. They feature high quality fitting and furnishings, and individual marble bathrooms with power showers, to make your feel pampered and cosseted.
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The Lamb Inn, High Street, Shipton-Under-Wychwood, Oxfordshire, OX7 6DQ
01993 830 465 info@shiptonlamb.co.uk

Advertorial

It's a great weekend for all at MG Live 2018

The world's biggest event for MG cars will take place at Silverstone on June 2-3, with over 90 years of heritage set to be showcased at the MG Car Club's feature-packed MGLive! event.

A family-friendly weekender with attractions for everyone, this will be the event's 68th year, with visitors travelling from as far afield as China, India and Australia to attend. Thousands of MGs from the 1920s right up to the present day will be present over the two days, whether that's in the Concours or Pride of Ownership displays, in the huge model-specific parking areas or being put through their paces in the Live Arena.

But that's far from all. Visitors can also enjoy a packed schedule of MG racing on the famous Grand Prix Circuit, a thrilling precision stunt display from Russ Swift and a fantastic Village Green area with live entertainment throughout – including an After Hours party on the Saturday night. A host of specialist traders will be on hand to supply a wide variety of goodies too, while MG Motor will be offering test drives in the latest range of MGs. Some of the cars at the event won't have been seen by UK eyes before, so are bound to cause a stir!

Day and weekend tickets are still available to purchase on the gate, with children under 15 admitted free. Camping pitches and motorhome parking is available for those wishing to make a full weekend of it. Visit www.mglive.co.uk or call 01235 555552 for more information.

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SILVERSTONE

Advertorial

'Adventure, Animation and Land Rovers' - all on offer for May half-term at the British Motor Museum!

May half-term from 26 May - 3 June is all about Adventure, Animation and Land Rovers at the British Motor Museum. 2018 marks the 70th Anniversary of Land Rover and the award winning Museum is celebrating with some fantastic themed activities for families to enjoy.

The new 'Discover Land Rovers' Trail' is a family friendly trail where visitors can explore some of the Land Rovers in the Museum's collection in a fun and interactive way. See the first pre-production Land Rover now 70 years old and discover what makes this much loved British brand so iconic.

There are also family 'Adventure Tours' each day with the costumed guides bringing to life some of the amazing adventure stories behind some of the cars, how they went through jungles and deserts often with no 4x4 or sat nav - how did they do it? … come and find out!

To round off a visit to the Museum there is the opportunity to make your own short animated film. Drop in to the Learning Space and start by creating a storyboard, then build a Land Rover model to star in your very own animation using 'Animate It!', the easy to use stop motion animation software and app developed by Kudlian Software and Aardman - the world famous animation studio and

creators of family favourites such as Wallace & Gromit, Shaun the Sheep and Morph.

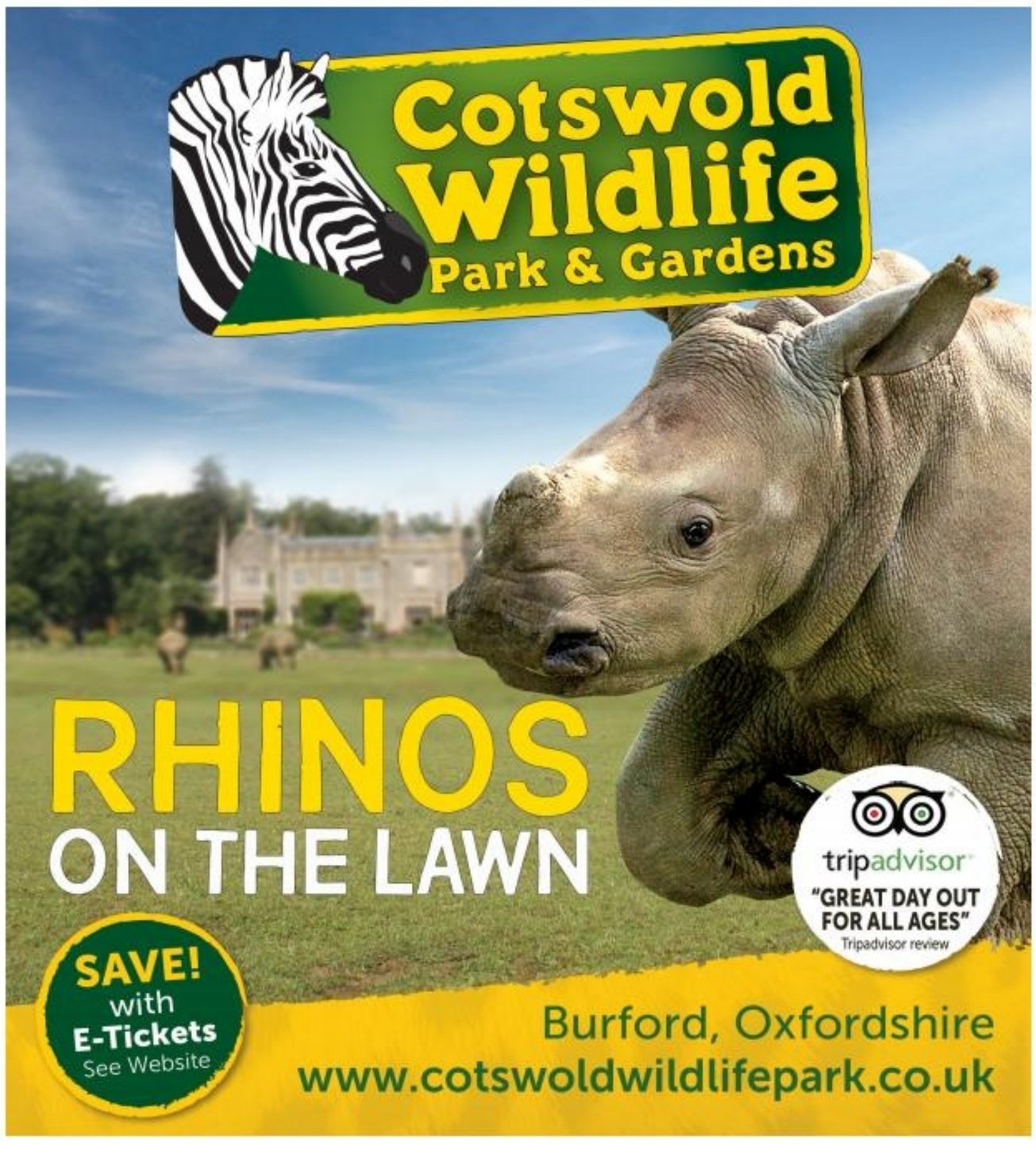
Emma Rawlinson, Life Long Learning Officer at the British Motor Museum said "Our aim is to make visiting the Museum as fun and engaging as possible whether you are 0 or 90! Our animation workshops, family trails and special family tours offer plenty to get everyone involved and entertained this May half-term!"

In addition there is a dedicated area for under 5s – where they can explore motoring play with toy cars and a play table, as well as 'sit in' the Museum's 'push along' cars.

All activities are included in Museum admission. There is no need to pre-book, just drop into the Learning Spaces when you visit. At busy times timed tickets will be issued. All materials are supplied, just bring your imagination!

Museum admission is charged at: Adults £14, Children £9 (5-16 years) under 5's free, Concessions £12 & a Family £39 (2 adults & up to 3 children). Buy 1 day and get 12 months free if you Gift Aid your entrance.

To find out more information about May half-term activities please visit the website www.britishmotormuseum.co.uk/events/family-activities or call 01926 641188. For top animation tips from the experts at Aardman visit www.animate-it.com and find out more about the Animate It! app and how you can download a free trial.



Half-Term Family Fun
26 May - 3 June
Half-term is all about adventure, animation and Land Rovers!
• Animation workshops using Animate It! software
• Land Rover Family Trail
• Family 'Adventure Tours'
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More info? Phone 01993 851002
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TAKE OFF!

Discover some of the things that fly in Roald Dahl's books this half-term at the Roald Dahl Museum.

26 May to 3 June

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Our Sunday menu changes weekly however we will always have our staple Roast Beef, Chicken, Pork & Lamb – Please note reserving a table is highly recommended on Sunday afternoons!

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Thursday May 24th

BBC 1

TOP TV

9.00pm Ambulance

MORNING

9.15am Ill Gotten Gains
10.00am Homes Under the Hammer
11.00am Neighbourhood Blues
11.45am Close Calls: On Camera

AFTERNOON

12.15pm Bargain Hunt
1.00pm BBC News at One
1.30pm Regional News and Weather
1.45pm Doctors
2.15pm The Doctor Blake Mysteries
3.15pm Escape to the Country
3.45pm Rhs Chelsea Flower Show 2018
4.30pm Hardball
5.15pm Pointless

EVENING

6.00pm BBC News at Six
6.30pm Regional News and Weather
7.00pm The One Show
7.30pm EastEnders
8.00pm Britain's Best Home Cook
9.00pm Ambulance
10.00pm BBC News at Ten
10.30pm Regional News and Weather
10.45pm Question Time
11.45pm This Week
12.30am Weather for the Week Ahead
12.35am BBC News
6.00am Breakfast

BBC 2

10.00pm The League of Gentlemen

MORNING

7.15am Hardball
8.00am Love in the Countryside
9.00am Victoria Derbyshire
11.00am BBC Newsroom Live

AFTERNOON

12.00pm The Daily Politics
1.00pm Perfection
1.45pm Going Back Giving Back
2.30pm Ray Mears Goes Walkabout
3.30pm Victorian Pharmacy
4.30pm Street Auction
5.15pm Antiques Road Trip

EVENING

6.00pm Eggheads
6.30pm Great British Railway Journeys
7.00pm Back to the Land with Kate Humble
8.00pm Rhs Chelsea Flower Show 2018
9.00pm Million Pound Menu
10.00pm The League of Gentlemen
10.30pm Newsnight
11.15pm Dara and Ed's Great Big Adventure
12.15am The Bridge
1.15am My Year with the Tribe
2.15am Nature's Biggest Beasts
3.15am This is BBC Two

ITV

2.00pm Judge Rinder's Crime Stories

MORNING

8.30am Lorraine
9.25am The Jeremy Kyle Show
10.30am This Morning

AFTERNOON

12.30pm Loose Women
1.30pm ITV Lunchtime News
1.55pm ITV News London
2.00pm Judge Rinder's Crime Stories
3.00pm Dickinson's Real Deal
4.00pm Tipping Point
5.00pm The Chase

EVENING

6.00pm ITV News London
6.30pm ITV Evening News
7.00pm Emmerdale
7.30pm Tonight
8.00pm Emmerdale
8.30pm Paul O'grady: For the Love of Dogs
9.00pm A&E Live
10.00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather
10.30pm ITV News London
10.45pm Great Art
11.45pm Lethal Weapon
12.35am Tonight
1.00am Jackpot247

Channel 4

8.00pm Kirstie and Phil's Love it or List it

MORNING

7.55am Everybody Loves Raymond
8.50am Frasier
9.55am Formula 1 Monaco Grand Prix Practice 1 Live
11.45am Channel 4 News
11.50am Coast v Country

AFTERNOON

12.50pm Posh Pawn
1.55pm Formula 1 Monaco Grand Prix Practice 2 Live
4.00pm The £100k Drop
5.00pm Four in a Bed
5.30pm Buy it Now

EVENING

6.00pm The Simpsons
6.30pm Hollyoaks
7.00pm Channel 4 News
7.55pm The Political Slot
8.00pm Kirstie and Phil's Love it or List it
9.00pm Humans
10.00pm First Dates
11.05pm Mo Salah: A Football Fairy Tale
12.05am Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA
12.55am Amazing Spaces Special: 24 Hour Build
1.50am Carry on Brussels
2.45am Holidays Unpacked

Channel 5

8.00pm Bad Tenants, Rogue Landlords

MORNING

8.20am Floogals
8.40am Digby Dragon
8.55am Nella the Princess Knight
9.05am Mofy
9.15am The Wright Stuff
11.15am The Yorkshire Vet

AFTERNOON

12.10pm 5 News Lunchtime
12.15pm GPs: Behind Closed Doors
1.15pm Home and Away
1.45pm Neighbours
2.20pm Celebrity Five Go Motorhoming
3.20pm Killer Switch
5.00pm 5 News at 5
5.30pm Neighbours

EVENING

6.00pm Home and Away
6.30pm 5 News Tonight
7.00pm Cricket on 5: England v Pakistan
8.00pm Bad Tenants, Rogue Landlords
9.00pm The Trouble with M&S
10.00pm Murdered by My Daughter
11.05pm Murdering the Mother-in-Law
12.00am Super Casino
3.10am GPs: Behind Closed Doors
4.00am Britain's Greatest Bridges
4.45am House Doctor
5.10am The Great Artists
5.35am Wildlife SOS
6.00am Peppa Pig

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Friday May 25th

TOP TV

BBC 1

5.15pm Pointless

BBC 2

9.00pm The Bridge

ITV

8.00pm Countrywise

Channel 4

8.00pm How to Get Fit Fast

Channel 5

5.30pm Neighbours

MORNING

BBC 1	BBC 2	ITV	Channel 4	Channel 5
9.15am Ill Gotten Gains	**7.15am** Hardball	**8.30am** Lorraine	**8.00am** Everybody Loves Raymond	**8.40am** Digby Dragon
10.00am Homes Under the Hammer	**8.00am** Antiques Roadshow	**9.25am** The Jeremy Kyle Show	**9.00am** Frasier	**8.55am** Nella the Princess Knight
11.00am Neighbourhood Blues	**9.00am** Victoria Derbyshire	**10.30am** This Morning	**10.05am** Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA	**9.05am** Mofy
11.45am Close Calls: On Camera	**11.00am** BBC Newsroom Live		**11.00am** Undercover Boss USA	**9.15am** The Wright Stuff
				11.15am The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door

AFTERNOON

BBC 1	BBC 2	ITV	Channel 4	Channel 5
12.15pm Bargain Hunt	**12.00pm** The Daily Politics	**12.30pm** Loose Women	**12.00pm** Channel 4 News	**12.10pm** 5 News Lunchtime
1.00pm BBC News at One	**1.00pm** Perfection	**1.30pm** ITV Lunchtime News	**12.05pm** Coast v Country	**12.15pm** GPs: Behind Closed Doors
1.30pm Regional News and Weather	**1.45pm** Going Back Giving Back	**1.55pm** ITV News London	**1.05pm** Posh Pawn	**1.15pm** Home and Away
1.45pm Doctors	**2.30pm** Ray Mears Goes Walkabout	**2.00pm** Judge Rinder's Crime Stories	**2.10pm** Countdown	**1.45pm** Neighbours
2.15pm The Doctor Blake Mysteries	**3.30pm** Victorian Pharmacy	**3.00pm** Dickinson's Real Deal	**3.00pm** A Place in the Sun	**2.15pm** Celebrity Five Go Motorhoming
3.15pm Escape to the Country	**4.30pm** Street Auction	**4.00pm** Tipping Point	**4.00pm** The £100k Drop	**3.15pm** Stranger in the House
3.45pm Rhs Chelsea Flower Show 2018	**5.15pm** Antiques Road Trip	**5.00pm** The Chase	**5.00pm** Four in a Bed	**5.00pm** 5 News at 5
4.30pm Hardball			**5.30pm** Buy it Now	**5.30pm** Neighbours
5.15pm Pointless				

EVENING

BBC 1	BBC 2	ITV	Channel 4	Channel 5
6.00pm BBC News at Six	**6.00pm** Eggheads	**6.00pm** ITV News London	**6.00pm** The Simpsons	**6.00pm** Home and Away
6.30pm Regional News and Weather	**6.30pm** Great British Railway Journeys	**6.30pm** ITV Evening News	**6.30pm** Hollyoaks	**6.30pm** 5 News Tonight
7.00pm The One Show	**7.00pm** Wild Escapes	**7.00pm** Emmerdale	**7.00pm** Channel 4 News	**7.00pm** Cricket on 5: England v Pakistan
7.30pm Rhs Chelsea Flower Show 2018	**7.30pm** Extreme Wales with Richard Parks	**7.30pm** Coronation Street	**7.30pm** Unreported World	**8.00pm** Kilimanjaro: Wonder of the World
8.00pm EastEnders	**8.00pm** Rhs Chelsea Flower Show 2018	**8.00pm** Countrywise	**8.00pm** How to Get Fit Fast	**9.00pm** The Cliff Richard Story
8.30pm The Button	**9.00pm** The Bridge	**8.30pm** Coronation Street	**9.00pm** Gogglebox	**10.30pm** An Audience with Cliff Richard
9.00pm Have I Got News for You	**10.00pm** Frankie Boyle's New World Order	**9.00pm** Lethal Weapon	**10.00pm** Friday Night Dinner	**12.10am** Super Casino
9.30pm Home from Home	**10.30pm** Newsnight	**10.00pm** ITV News at Ten and Weather	**10.30pm** High and Dry	**3.10am** GPs: Behind Closed Doors
10.00pm BBC News at Ten	**11.05pm** Front Row Late	**10.30pm** ITV News London	**11.00pm** First Dates	**4.00am** Intercity 125: The Train That Saved Britain's Railways
10.25pm Regional News and Weather	**11.35pm** The White Countess	**10.45pm** The Keith and Paddy Picture Show	**12.05am** Alan Carr Yap, Yap, Yap!	**4.45am** House Doctor
10.35pm The Graham Norton Show	**1.40am** Panorama	**11.15pm** Through the Keyhole	**1.00am** Apocalypto	**5.10am** The Great Artists
11.25pm Would I Lie to You?		**12.10am** Change Your Tune	**3.20am** Humans	**5.35am** Wildlife SOS
11.55pm Young, Welsh and Pretty Minted		**1.00am** Jackpot247	**4.15am** Gok's Fill Your House for Free	
12.25am Lucky Them			**5.10am** Kirstie's Vintage Gems	

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Saturday May 26th

BBC 1

TOP TV

3.15pm Wallace and Gromit: The Wrong Trousers

MORNING

12.00pm Bargain Hunt
1.00pm BBC News
1.15pm Money for Nothing
2.15pm Escape to the Country
3.15pm Wallace and Gromit: The Wrong Trousers

AFTERNOON

3.45pm Puss in Boots
5.05pm Ready or Not
5.35pm BBC News
5.45pm Regional News and Weather
5.55pm Pointless

EVENING

6.45pm Ed Sheeran at the Biggest Weekend
7.45pm Who Dares Wins
8.25pm Casualty
9.15pm All Round to Mrs Brown's
10.15pm BBC News
10.35pm Kenny
11.50pm The Button
12.25am The Uninvited
1.45am Weather for the Week Ahead
1.50am BBC News
6.00am Breakfast

BBC 2

2.00pm The Sinking of the Laconia

MORNING

8.30am Beyond Bionic
9.00am Robot Wars
10.00am Astronauts: Do You Have What it Takes?
11.00am Homes Under the Hammer

AFTERNOON

12.00pm The World According to Kids
1.00pm SAS: Rogue Warriors
2.00pm The Sinking of the Laconia
3.30pm Love in the Countryside
4.30pm The Biggest Weekend Live

EVENING

6.00pm Golf
6.45pm Rhs Chelsea Flower Show 2018
7.45pm Emeli Sande and Clean Bandit at the Biggest Weekend
9.00pm Sam Smith at the Biggest Weekend
10.00pm Noel Gallagher's High Flying Birds at the Biggest Weekend
11.30pm Later Weekend with Jools Holland
12.30am The Hunter
2.05am The Past
4.10am This is BBC Two
6.35am Coast

ITV

8.00pm Britain's Got Talent

MORNING

8.30am Zoe Ball on Saturday
9.25am Saturday Morning with James Martin
11.20am Best Walks with a View with Julia Bradbury
11.50am Little Big Shots

AFTERNOON

12.50pm ITV Lunchtime News
1.00pm Midsomer Murders
3.00pm Love Your Garden NHS Special
4.00pm Tipping Point
5.00pm The Chase

EVENING

6.00pm ITV Evening News
6.15pm ITV News London
6.30pm Ninja Warrior UK
7.30pm Harry Hill's Alien Fun Capsule
8.00pm Britain's Got Talent
9.15pm The Keith and Paddy Picture Show
9.45pm The Keith and Paddy Picture Show
10.15pm ITV News
10.30pm UEFA Champions League Final
11.30pm Play to the Whistle
12.05am Jackpot247
3.00am Mr Selfridge

Channel 4

5.30pm The Secret Life of the Zoo

MORNING

7.05am Everybody Loves Raymond
8.25am Frasier
9.55am Monaco Historic Grand Prix 2018
10.55am Formula 1

AFTERNOON

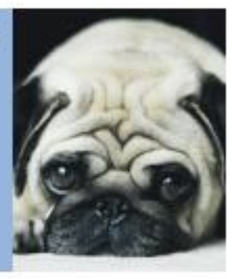
12.25pm F1 Meets... Niki Lauda
12.55pm Formula 1
3.45pm Car S.O.S
4.45pm A Place in the Sun
5.30pm The Secret Life of the Zoo

EVENING

6.30pm Channel 4 News
7.00pm Grand Designs
8.00pm The Queen's Lost Cousin
9.00pm Identity Thief
11.15pm Bad Neighbours
1.00am Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA
1.50am Hollyoaks Omnibus
4.00am My Kitchen Rules
4.55am Fifteen to One
5.45am Steph and Dom's One Star to Five Star
6.10am Motorsport
6.40am Eat the Week with Iceland

Channel 5

1.00pm Playful Pups Make You Laugh Out Loud



MORNING

10.00am Peppa Pig
10.15am Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
10.50am Animals Make You Laugh Out Loud
11.10am Naughty Toddlers Make You Laugh Out Loud

AFTERNOON

12.00pm Holidays Make You Laugh Out Loud
1.00pm Playful Pups Make You Laugh Out Loud
2.05pm Nightmare Tenants
3.05pm Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords
4.05pm Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords
5.05pm 5 News Weekend
5.10pm Can't Pay: Christmas Special

EVENING

6.05pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!
7.00pm Cricket on 5: England v Pakistan
7.55pm What Happened Next
9.15pm Queen Victoria and Her Tragic Family
10.15pm Elizabeth I
11.15pm Football on 5: Play-Off Final
12.15am Super Casino
3.10am Secret Life of Marilyn Monroe: The Early Years
4.45am House Doctor
5.10am The Great Artists
5.35am Wildlife SOS
6.00am Little Princess

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Sunday May 27th

TOP TV

BBC 1

2.15pm Escape to the Country

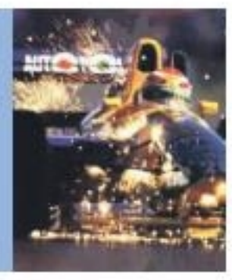
BBC 2

11.15am Spring Kitchen with Tom Kerridge

ITV

1.55pm Ninja Warrior UK

Channel 4



1.45pm Formula 1

Channel 5

4.25pm The Parent Trap

MORNING

BBC 1

9.00am The Andrew Marr Show
10.00am The Big Questions
11.00am Sunday Politics

BBC 2

7.35am Glorious Gardens From Above
8.20am Countryfile Spring Special
9.15am The Beechgrove Garden
9.45am Saturday Kitchen Best Bites
11.15am Spring Kitchen with Tom Kerridge

ITV

8.25am ITV News
8.30am Zoe Ball on Sunday
9.25am Best Walks with a View with Julia Bradbury
10.00am Peston on Sunday
11.00am Britain's Got Talent

Channel 4

7.30am Frasier
8.00am Monaco Historic Grand Prix 2018
8.55am Bake Off: The Professionals
10.00am Sunday Brunch

Channel 5

9.25am Digby Dragon
9.40am Peppa Pig
9.55am Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
10.30am Dogs Make You Laugh Out Loud 2
10.55am Police Interceptors

AFTERNOON

BBC 1

12.15pm Bargain Hunt
1.00pm BBC News
1.15pm Homes Under the Hammer
2.15pm Escape to the Country
3.15pm Britain's Best Home Cook
4.10pm Points of View
4.25pm Songs of Praise
5.05pm The Coronation

BBC 2

12.00pm Motorsport
1.00pm Athletics
2.00pm The Sinking of the Laconia
3.30pm Flog It!
4.30pm The Biggest Weekend Live

ITV

12.15pm Britain's Got More Talent Live
1.15pm ITV Lunchtime News
1.25pm Countrywise
1.55pm Ninja Warrior UK
3.00pm Tenable
4.00pm Tipping Point
5.00pm The Chase: Celebrity Special

Channel 4

1.00pm Formula 1 Monaco Grand Prix Live Build Up
1.45pm Formula 1
4.30pm Formula 1
5.30pm Grand Designs

Channel 5

12.50pm Five Children and It
2.35pm Madeline
4.25pm The Parent Trap

EVENING

BBC 1

6.05pm BBC News
6.20pm Regional News and Weather
6.30pm Countryfile Royal Special
7.30pm Taylor Swift and Paloma Faith at the Biggest Weekend
9.00pm A Very English Scandal
10.00pm BBC News
10.20pm Regional News and Weather
10.30pm Imagine...
11.35pm The Ides of March
1.10am Weather for the Week Ahead
1.15am BBC News
6.00am Breakfast

BBC 2

6.00pm Golf
7.00pm Million Pound Menu
8.00pm Steve Backshall v the Monster Mountain
9.00pm Florence + the Machine at the Biggest Weekend
10.00pm Liam Gallagher at the Biggest Weekend
11.30pm Rugby Union
12.30am Question Time
1.30am Holby City
2.30am This is BBC Two
6.00am Flog it! Trade Secrets
6.30am Ill Gotten Gains

ITV

6.00pm Harry Hill's Alien Fun Capsule
6.30pm ITV Evening News
6.45pm ITV News London
7.00pm Little Big Shots
8.00pm The London Palladium: The Greatest Stage on Earth
10.00pm ITV News
10.20pm Peston on Sunday
11.20pm Sunday Night at the Palladium
12.10am Great Art
1.00am Jackpot247
3.00am Motorsport UK
3.50am ITV Nightscreen
5.05am The Jeremy Kyle Show

Channel 4

6.30pm Channel 4 News
7.00pm Escape to the Chateau
8.00pm Bake Off: The Professionals
9.00pm The Handmaid's Tale
10.10pm The Hunger Games: Catching Fire
12.55am The Family
2.55am Best Laid Plans
3.50am My Kitchen Rules
4.45am Shipping Wars
5.10am Fifteen to One
6.00am 3rd Rock from the Sun
6.50am Step Up All In

Channel 5

6.55pm 5 News Weekend
7.00pm Cricket on 5: England v Pakistan
8.00pm Agatha Christie's Crooked House
10.05pm Top of the Box: 1989 with Matthew Kelly
11.50pm The Best of Bad TV: The 80s
1.10am Football on 5: League 1 Play-Off Final
1.40am Super Casino
3.10am Secret Life of Marilyn Monroe: Affairs and Heartbreak
4.40am House Doctor
5.05am The Great Artists

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Monday May 28th

TOP TV

BBC 1

6.30pm The One Show

BBC 2

3.30pm Victorian Pharmacy

ITV

6.00pm Paul O'grady: For the Love of Dogs

Channel 4

8.30pm Tricks of the Restaurant Trade

Channel 5

2.40pm Rio Lobo

MORNING

BBC 1		BBC 2		ITV		Channel 4		Channel 5	
9.00am	Countryfile Spring Diaries	**8.25am**	How to Train Your Dragon: Legend of the Boneknapper Dragon	**8.30am**	Lorraine	**8.50am**	The Big Bang Theory	**8.25am**	Floogals
9.45am	Homes Under the Hammer	**8.40am**	Mars Needs Moms	**9.25am**	The Jeremy Kyle Show	**9.20am**	The Big Bang Theory	**8.40am**	Digby Dragon
10.45am	Neighbourhood Blues	**10.05am**	Frankenweenie	**10.30am**	This Morning	**9.50am**	The Big Bang Theory	**8.55am**	Nella the Princess Knight
11.30am	Close Calls: On Camera	**11.25am**	Over the Hedge			**10.15am**	The Simpsons	**9.05am**	Mofy
								9.15am	The Wright Stuff
								11.15am	Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!

AFTERNOON

12.00pm	Bargain Hunt	**12.45pm**	Golf	**12.30pm**	Loose Women	**12.10pm**	Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA	**12.10pm**	5 News Lunchtime
1.00pm	BBC News at One	**2.30pm**	Ray Mears' Northern Wilderness	**1.45pm**	ITV Lunchtime News	**1.05pm**	Find it, Fix it, Flog it	**12.15pm**	GPs: Behind Closed Doors
1.15pm	Regional News and Weather	**3.30pm**	Victorian Pharmacy	**1.55pm**	ITV News London	**2.10pm**	Countdown	**1.10pm**	Home and Away
1.30pm	Escape to the Country	**4.30pm**	Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is	**2.00pm**	Judge Rinder	**3.00pm**	A Place in the Sun	**1.40pm**	Neighbours
2.00pm	Money for Nothing	**5.15pm**	Antiques Road Trip	**3.00pm**	Dickinson's Real Deal	**4.00pm**	The £100k Drop	**2.10pm**	Car Crime UK: Caught on Camera
2.45pm	Flog It!			**4.00pm**	Tipping Point	**5.00pm**	Come Dine with Me	**2.40pm**	Rio Lobo
3.45pm	Garden Rescue			**5.00pm**	The Chase			**3.40pm**	5 News
4.30pm	Hardball							**3.45pm**	Rio Lobo
5.15pm	Pointless							**5.00pm**	Home and Away
								5.30pm	Neighbours

EVENING

6.00pm	BBC News at Six	**6.00pm**	Richard Osman's House of Games	**6.00pm**	Paul O'grady: For the Love of Dogs	**6.00pm**	The Simpsons	**6.00pm**	Aviva Premiership Rugby Highlights
6.15pm	Regional News and Weather	**6.30pm**	Curious Creatures	**6.30pm**	ITV News London	**6.30pm**	Hollyoaks	**7.00pm**	Cricket on 5: England v Pakistan
6.30pm	The One Show	**7.00pm**	Eric and Ernie's Home Movies	**6.45pm**	ITV Evening News	**7.00pm**	Channel 4 News	**8.00pm**	Police Interceptors
7.00pm	Rhs Chelsea Flower Show 2018	**8.00pm**	Springwatch	**7.00pm**	Emmerdale	**7.30pm**	Travel Man	**9.00pm**	Paddington Station: Windsor Wedding Special
8.00pm	EastEnders	**9.30pm**	King Lear	**7.30pm**	Britain's Got Talent Live Show	**8.00pm**	Jamie's Quick and Easy Food	**10.00pm**	Most Shocking Talent Show Moments
8.30pm	Antiques Roadshow Coronation Special	**11.25pm**	Brideshead Revisited	**9.00pm**	Coronation Street	**8.30pm**	Tricks of the Restaurant Trade	**12.55am**	Football on 5: League 2 Play-Off Final
9.30pm	Peter Kay's Car Share	**1.30am**	Countryfile Spring Special	**9.30pm**	Britain's Got Talent	**9.00pm**	24 Hours in Police Custody	**1.25am**	Super Casino
10.00pm	Peter Kay's Car Share	**2.25am**	The a-Z of the Rhs Chelsea Flower Show	**10.00pm**	ITV News	**10.00pm**	Gogglebox	**3.10am**	Kilimanjaro: Wonder of the World
10.30pm	BBC News at Ten	**3.25am**	Britain's Fat Fight with Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall	**10.20pm**	Rush Hour	**11.00pm**	Life Stripped Bare	**4.00am**	Britain's Greatest Bridges
10.50pm	Regional News and Weather	**4.25am**	This is BBC Two	**12.05am**	Jackpot247	**12.20am**	First Dates		
11.00pm	Have I Got a Bit More News for You	**6.00am**	Flog it! Trade Secrets	**3.00am**	The Jeremy Kyle Show	**1.15am**	The Secret Life of the Zoo		
11.45pm	The Graham Norton Show			**3.50am**	ITV Nightscreen	**2.10am**	The Supervet		
				5.05am	The Jeremy Kyle Show	**3.05am**	Best Laid Plans		
						4.00am	My Kitchen Rules		

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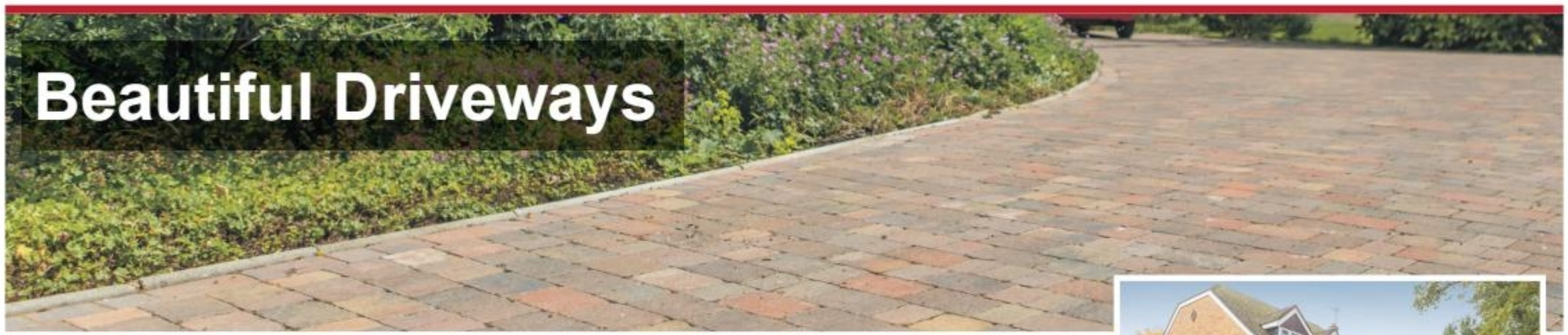

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Tuesday May 29th

BBC 1

3.45pm Garden Rescue

TOP TV

MORNING

9.15am Countryfile Spring Diaries
10.00am Homes Under the Hammer
11.00am Neighbourhood Blues
11.45am Close Calls: On Camera

AFTERNOON

12.15pm Bargain Hunt
1.00pm BBC News at One
1.30pm Regional News and Weather
1.45pm Doctors
2.15pm Escape to the Country
3.00pm Flog It!
3.45pm Garden Rescue
4.30pm Hardball
5.15pm Pointless

EVENING

6.00pm BBC News at Six
6.30pm Regional News and Weather
7.00pm The One Show
7.30pm EastEnders
8.00pm Holby City
9.00pm The Split
10.00pm BBC News at Ten
10.30pm Regional News and Weather
10.45pm Misfits Like Us
11.25pm Reggie Yates' Extreme South Africa
12.25am Weather for the Week Ahead
12.30am BBC News
6.00am Breakfast

BBC 2

6.30pm Curious Creatures

MORNING

7.15am Hardball
8.00am Top of the Shop with Tom Kerridge
9.00am Victoria Derbyshire
11.00am BBC Newsroom Live
11.30am The Week in Parliament

AFTERNOON

12.00pm The Super League Show
12.45pm All Creatures Great and Small
2.15pm Coast
2.30pm Ray Mears' Northern Wilderness
3.30pm Victorian Pharmacy
4.30pm Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is
5.15pm Antiques Road Trip

EVENING

6.00pm Richard Osman's House of Games
6.30pm Curious Creatures
7.00pm Mexico: Earth's Festival of Life
8.00pm Springwatch
9.00pm Grammar Schools
10.00pm Later Live... with Jools Holland
10.30pm Newsnight
11.15pm Love in the Countryside
12.15am Britain's Best Home Cook
1.15am Amazing Hotels: Life Beyond the Lobby
2.15am This is BBC Two
6.00am Flog it! Trade Secrets

ITV

7.00pm Emmerdale

MORNING

8.30am Lorraine
9.25am The Jeremy Kyle Show
10.30am This Morning

AFTERNOON

12.30pm Loose Women
1.30pm ITV Lunchtime News
1.55pm ITV News London
2.00pm Judge Rinder
3.00pm Dickinson's Real Deal
4.00pm Tipping Point
5.00pm The Chase

EVENING

6.00pm ITV News London
6.30pm ITV Evening News
7.00pm Emmerdale
7.30pm Britain's Got Talent Live Show
9.00pm Coronation Street
9.30pm Britain's Got Talent
10.00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather
10.35pm ITV News London
10.50pm On Assignment
11.20pm Britain's Busiest Airport - Heathrow
11.50pm The London Palladium: The Greatest Stage on Earth
1.30am Jackpot247

Channel 4

11.00pm 24 Hours in a and e

MORNING

7.10am King of Queens
7.35am Everybody Loves Raymond
9.00am Frasier
10.05am Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA
11.00am Undercover Boss USA

AFTERNOON

12.00pm Channel 4 News
12.05pm Coast v Country
1.05pm Find it, Fix it, Flog it
2.10pm Countdown
3.00pm A Place in the Sun
4.00pm The £100k Drop
5.00pm Come Dine with Me

EVENING

6.00pm The Simpsons
6.30pm Hollyoaks
7.00pm Channel 4 News
8.00pm Food Unwrapped
9.00pm The Battle for Britain's Heroes
10.00pm 4 Men, 175 Babies: Britain's Super Sperm Donors
11.00pm 24 Hours in a and e
12.05am Flight Hs13: Walter Presents
1.00am Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA
1.50am How to Get Fit Fast
2.45am Best Laid Plans
3.40am My Kitchen Rules

Channel 5

11.15am Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!

MORNING

8.25am Floogals
8.40am Digby Dragon
8.55am Nella the Princess Knight
9.05am Mofy
9.15am The Wright Stuff
11.15am Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!

AFTERNOON

12.10pm 5 News Lunchtime
12.15pm GPs: Behind Closed Doors
1.15pm Home and Away
1.45pm Neighbours
2.15pm Celebrity Five Go Barging
3.20pm A Woman Deceived
5.00pm 5 News at 5
5.30pm Neighbours

EVENING

6.00pm Home and Away
6.30pm 5 News Tonight
7.00pm Britain by Bike with Larry and George Lamb
8.00pm The Yorkshire Vet
9.00pm All New Traffic Cops: Drug Bust Special
10.00pm Most Shocking Moments in Sport
1.00am Super Casino
3.10am Bad Tenants, Rogue Landlords
4.00am Britain's Greatest Bridges
4.45am House Doctor
5.10am Great Scientists

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Wednesday May 30th

BBC 1

9.00pm The Doctor Who Gave Up Drugs

MORNING

9.15am Countryfile Spring Diaries
10.00am Homes Under the Hammer
11.00am Neighbourhood Blues
11.45am Close Calls: On Camera

AFTERNOON

12.15pm Bargain Hunt
1.00pm BBC News at One
1.30pm Regional News and Weather
1.45pm Doctors
2.15pm Escape to the Country
3.00pm Flog It!
3.45pm Garden Rescue
4.30pm Hardball
5.15pm Pointless

EVENING

6.00pm BBC News at Six
6.30pm Regional News and Weather
7.00pm The One Show
7.30pm Panorama
8.00pm The Big Crash Diet Experiment
9.00pm The Doctor Who Gave Up Drugs
10.00pm BBC News at Ten
10.30pm Regional News and Weather
10.45pm Miranda Barbour: Serial Killer or Liar?
11.45pm Ambulance
12.45am Weather for the Week Ahead
12.50am BBC News

BBC 2

2.30pm Ray Mears' Northern Wilderness

MORNING

7.15am Hardball
8.00am Britain in Bloom
9.00am Victoria Derbyshire
11.00am BBC Newsroom Live

AFTERNOON

12.00pm Coast
12.35pm Great Expectations
2.30pm Ray Mears' Northern Wilderness
3.30pm Edwardian Farm
4.30pm Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is
5.15pm Antiques Road Trip

EVENING

6.00pm Richard Osman's House of Games
6.30pm Curious Creatures
7.00pm Mexico: Earth's Festival of Life
8.00pm Springwatch
9.00pm Love in the Countryside
10.00pm Detectorists
10.30pm Newsnight
11.15pm Red Ape: Saving the Orangutan
12.15am Britain's Biggest Warship
1.15am World's Most Extraordinary Homes
2.15am This is BBC Two
6.00am Flog it! Trade Secrets

ITV

3.00pm Dickinson's Real Deal

MORNING

8.30am Lorraine
9.25am The Jeremy Kyle Show
10.30am This Morning

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12.30pm Loose Women
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7.30pm Britain's Got Talent Live Show
9.00pm Coronation Street
9.30pm Britain's Got Talent
10.00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather
10.35pm ITV News London
10.50pm Car Crash Britain Caught on Camera
11.50pm British Touring Car Championship Highlights
1.05am Jackpot247
3.00am Grantchester

Channel 4

5.00pm Come Dine with Me

MORNING

7.10am King of Queens
7.35am Everybody Loves Raymond
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3.00pm A Place in the Sun
4.00pm The £100k Drop
5.00pm Come Dine with Me

EVENING

6.00pm The Simpsons
6.30pm Hollyoaks
7.00pm Channel 4 News
8.00pm The Secret Life of the Zoo
9.00pm 24 Hours in a and e
10.00pm Carry on Brussels
11.05pm Gogglebox
12.05am Friday Night Dinner
12.35am High and Dry
1.00am How'd You Get So Rich?
1.45am Straightheads
3.05am Joe Wicks: The Body Coach
4.00am My Kitchen Rules
4.55am Kirstie's Vintage Gems

Channel 5

7.00pm Police Interceptors

MORNING

8.40am Digby Dragon
8.55am Nella the Princess Knight
9.05am Mofy
9.15am The Wright Stuff
11.15am Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords

AFTERNOON

12.10pm 5 News Lunchtime
12.15pm GPs: Behind Closed Doors
1.10pm Home and Away
1.45pm Neighbours
2.15pm Celebrity Five Go Barging
3.15pm My Husband is Missing
5.00pm 5 News at 5
5.30pm Neighbours

EVENING

6.00pm Home and Away
6.30pm 5 News Tonight
7.00pm Police Interceptors
8.00pm GPs: Behind Closed Doors
9.00pm Pompeii's Final Hours: New Evidence
10.00pm Inglourious Basterds
11.00pm 5 News
11.05pm Inglourious Basterds
1.15am Super Casino
3.10am GPs: Behind Closed Doors
4.00am Britain's Greatest Bridges
4.45am House Doctor
5.10am Great Scientists

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Walking is a fantastic way to improve mental and physical health, through exercise, fresh air, time away from the pressures we face in everyday life.

At Sobell House we attach a lot of importance to the overall well-being of our patients, their physical and mental health matters to us. Our priority is on enabling patients to retain their mobility and independence for as long as possible, and to support people in living as well and as fully as possible in the time that they have left.

Our fantastic multi-disciplinary team, made up of occupational therapists, physiotherapists, a psychiatrist and a range of art therapists, works together to ensure patients have the tools as well as the physical aids that they need to help make many of the small everyday tasks that we all take for granted that much more possible. Tasks such as putting on slippers; walking to the end of the garden; going to the toilet on one's own; turning in bed; all these tasks can become overwhelming if people are not equipped to carry them safely. We see that this greater feeling of independence and control has a direct positive impact on the patients' mental health.

The majority of the people who support Sobell House have had a connection with the hospice. We find that many chose physical exercise such as walking and running as their way of showing their gratitude for the services that we provided for a loved one.

So we are keen to give our supporters the opportunity to get fit and feel healthy and, at the same time, help Sobell House to continue to care for people living with a terminal illness across Oxfordshire.

Here are some of the immediate opportunities that you can join to come and get fit with us www.sobellhouse.org for more information or call us on 01865857007

The Moonlight Stroll – 23 June 2018 – 9pm

This is our best supported event – hundreds of people come together of an evening to walk for Sobell House and show their support and appreciation for the work that we do.

It is an 8-mile walk through the streets of Oxford, with marshals at every turn helping you stay on course.

Sign up at www.sobellhouse.org/moonlight-stroll

The Oxford Half Marathon – 7 October

If you're a little more experienced or want to set yourself a new challenge, we are now taking entries for the Oxford Half Marathon.

With over 100 runners, last year Team Sobell was the largest single team in the race. Let's try and do even better this year, get your place now and take advantage of our special charity places!

To sign up and get your special code email kevin.game@sobellhospice.org or call 01865 857012

Unfortunately we have been forced to cancel our Forget Me Not fun run on Sunday 20th May. We will be contacting registered runners separately

If you would like to hear more about the work of Sobell House, or keep up to date with our events please email mail@sobellhospice.org

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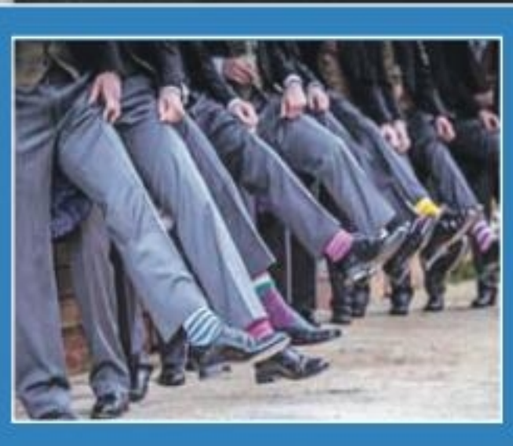

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ADVERTORIAL

The Changing Face Of Men's Wedding Attire

British wedding habits have changed rapidly during the last few years, and this evolvement continues into 2018.

- The average wedding now costs over £16,000
- The trend for cupcakes is falling out of favour, being replaced with trends like cheese towers.
- Purple is the most popular bridesmaids dress colour
- 18% of newlyweds now honeymoon in the UK and 34% in Europe

These changes are also reflected in what the groom is opting to wear on his big day. At The Cotswold Tailor we have noticed big shifts in demand in both our hire department and our bespoke tailoring service, when it comes to wedding suits.

In 2015 we rented out not a single frock coat, and demand for morning coats fell significantly. When we did rent out a morning coat, more often than not the groom has opted to move away from traditional wedding waistcoats, and instead replaced these with tweed (*see picture right*).

Noticeably with both my bespoke and hire wear clients, there has been a shift towards: more tailored, three piece, slim-fit, lounge suits, particularly brighter blue shades. With many of my bespoke clients pointing out the benefits of getting frequent use out of the lounge suit post the wedding.

Possibly the biggest trend, however, has been in the rising popularity of tweed. As country/natural themed weddings have grown in popularity so too has the demand for both three piece tweed suits, but also the more relaxed look of a pair of chinos paired with tweed waistcoats and tweed jacket. (*see picture right*)

This look has become so popular that in 2016 we launched an entire new hire wear range dedicated to tweed.

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How to be a winner in Oxford's competitive housing market

Bill Cooper, co-author of The Oxford Property Blog and managing director of Martin and Co, Oxford

Asking prices for Oxford homes show no signs of falling, up 4% year on year to a new record high average value of £422,157. However, the number of completed transactions in our City is down 11% year on year.

The number of houses on the market for sale is high, but 11% fewer properties are selling successfully, so Oxford has a buyer's market. What can sellers do to optimise the chances of their home selling successfully?

To achieve a sale, four factors must be considered: Location, Condition, Presentation and Price. We will explore these in turn.

Location

This is fixed, your home is where it is. What makes it a great place to live? Who is typically attracted to the area? – know your market. Will your home and location appeal to first-time buyers, young and growing families or investors for example. How easy is it to commute to the City centre, to London or to Birmingham? Does it have great road links or great rail links? You have lived in this area for a while, think about what attracted you in the first place, and how has it improved since.

Condition

Selling a home is competitive. Why should buyers make the effort to view if you don't make the effort to present it to its very best standard? Your home must be presented to a high standard to compete effectively. This starts with cleaning – from the carpets, to the kitchen cupboards, the bathroom to the cobwebs in the corner of the downstairs loo and dust on the skirting boards. Believe me, buyers notice! Employing a contract cleaner to really blitz the place is money well-spent.

Do any walls or rooms need re-decorating? – be honest and don't cut corners. A tin of paint costs £20 to £30, but it could add £5,000 to the price you achieve. Try to stick to light, neutral colours and avoid dark browns and black. Pay attention to the details – chipped door frames, scuffed skirtings and tired window ledges. Are there any fixtures that need fitting or repairing? That blind that's half pulled out of the wall or the door that's sticking. And, above all, declutter – viewers want to imagine their belongings in your home not yours. There's a reason show homes are immaculate, clutter-free zones!

Think about how some 'staging accessories' could be positioned to wow potential buyers. Cushions, Rugs, posh toiletries can all be used and taken with you. For viewings, buy some flowers to add colour, and buy bedding and new towels that you only use for viewings, and then pack away until the next time. Paint a picture for viewers – they can lack imagination, so show them how great their life will be in your home.

Presentation

Visual appeal is King – whether online, in the estate agent's window or in the brochure that viewers take home. A minimum of 10 high definition photographs, a floorplan and a description that helps buyers understand why your home is perfect for them. Where are the shops? Where are the Schools? Where are the restaurants and bars? Draw a picture in words of what they will love about your home. But everyone has great photos and a floorplan, so go further – a 3-dimensional virtual walk through will create interaction, boost interest and improve the quality of your viewings – they've already walked round virtually, and now they want to do so for real.

Price

When all of the above is in place, you must be realistic about price. Do your research. Use Rightmove and Zoopla to look at comparable properties against which you will compete for attention. Buyers will have a forensic knowledge of the local market and will assess it dispassionately. You need to do the same.

Many estate agents will allow a buyer to over-price their property, confident that they will secure price reductions over-time. But a property has its greatest impact over the first 2-3 weeks on market. So be realistic and don't squander the early marketing.

The viewing

This is THE critical moment. Plan it carefully. Are there times of the day to avoid – because of noise or congestion? Make sure your home looks as good in real life as it did for the photos. Stay enthusiastic – it might be your 10th viewing, but it is the viewer's first! Clean, tidy, declutter and 'stage' for every viewing. And remember, the outside is as important as the inside – first impressions count.

The sale

Because it is a buyers' market expect to negotiate the price. Many Oxford homes sell for prices lower than advertised. Know what's your bottom-line and negotiate carefully to achieve it.

Over the last year 2,898 Oxford homes found a buyer and completed a sale, that's 360 fewer than in the previous 12 months. Last year, I wrote a guide for Oxford homes sellers – 'How to sell your home quicker and for more' to help buyers understand how to succeed. It has proved very popular. If you are selling your home and think the guide might be helpful please give Jay Sarbatta a call on 01865812110.

It doesn't have to be a jungle out there

The weather has certainly enjoyed an upturn in recent weeks and whilst its longevity over the summer remains to be seen, it's certainly at this time of year that we all feel more inclined to venture out in to the garden.

If you're planning to put your property on the market, ensuring that your outside space creates a good first impression is vital – after all, if you're not proud of what everyone walks past, what will the interior be like?

Data varies as to the exact impact that a messy, unattractive garden can have on the overall value of your home, but with easily rising in to the tens of thousands, a few hours spent tinkering around on the weekend could be time well spent – not least of all because purchasers take just a matter of seconds to decide whether they like a property before they've even stepped inside! Research in the past has even suggested that up to a third would not view a house if they were put off by its exterior.

The good news is, though, that you don't have to be a green-fingered Monty Don to make a real difference!

Keeping on top of your lawn's appearance to ensure that it looks neat and tidy may feel mundane, but well coifed turf provides the ideal canvas on which to add colour and character in the form of potted plants, garden ornaments or perhaps a seat or bench. Hanging baskets additionally add some personality to a home and if you're the sort of person who forgets to do the watering (when nature doesn't provide that itself), plastic topiary balls provide a stylish and care-free alternative!

But whilst your lawn may be the largest part of your garden, your attention on this shouldn't detract from keeping paths and patios clear. Ensure you regularly remove weeds and carry out a quick sweep before prospective purchasers arrive to view your property. This will provide an air of pride before they've even stepped through the front door!

Turning attentions to the borders of your garden, you can be as adventurous (or not!) as your gardening skills allow – just don't leave great expanses of empty soil! Slate or shingle help provide a low maintenance border that creates real impact, or you may be someone who prefers lots of greenery. In either scenario, ensure you keep on top of the weeding and educate yourself on less savoury garden invaders such as Bindweed, Morning Glory or worst of all, Japanese Knotweed!

Japanese Knotweed has the potential to grow a staggering foot in just a week and spread up to seven metres in all directions per season. It has been known to destroy walls and cause significant damage to underground drains so if you fear that it may be in your own garden, you'd be well advised to seek professional advice on its removal before you place your property on the market as any prospective purchaser may have trouble securing a mortgage whilst it remains present.

For advice on creating kerb appeal in your garden that will help your property stand out, why not visit one of our five branches across Oxfordshire or log-on to www.andrewsonline.co.uk

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Build It Live returns to Oxfordshire (9 and 10 June 2018)

One of the UK's most popular self-build and renovation shows Build It Live will return to Bicester, Oxfordshire on the weekend of 9 and 10 June 2018.

Build It Live brings together industry experts, exhibitors and individuals looking to build their own home, renovate an old house or are wanting to add space to their current home.

Visitors can hear from self-builders' who will be telling their own self build stories including giving top tips and sharing what they wish they'd known before getting started.

The show will provide plenty of inspiration for home owners looking to change the exterior look of their home by adding or replacing bifold doors, sliding doors, French doors, windows, contemporary and traditional entrance doors and roof lights.

There will be a choice of 9 free seminars each day developed by Build It's editorial team and a panel of experts to ensure all common questions are covered and to give visitors the knowledge to take control of their projects.

Seminar Programme:

- A step by step build to self-build
- How to find land and getting planning permission
- How to add more space and value
- Renovating a home with character
- The different routes to managing your project
- What are the self and custom build opportunities on Gravel Hill
- The perfect way to build your home plus the great build system debate!
- Building a sustainable home
- Designing your dream home

16 free workshops will also be presented by leading suppliers and specialists in the Workshops Zone and will cover specific problems and choices that self-builders and renovators face every day including how to hire the right builders and trades, how to finance a self-build project, projects you can achieve without planning permission, windows and doors, Oak framed homes and how best to add space in lofts, basement or through an extension.

Leading companies including Potton Homes and Carpenter Oak will have experts on hand to discuss individual self-build projects.

The Bicester show also features the Graven Hill Zone, a dedicated area where visitors can find out more about the opportunities to build on the Graven Hill site, the UK's largest self-build project with over 1000 plots available. Graven Hill is in Bicester, just a 45 minute commute into London by train, and so an ideal option for first time buyers struggling to get on the property ladder in the City.

Specialist areas at the show:

THE NAKED HOUSE - See a cut-away show home at '1st fix'– a fascinating insight into how things are installed, from ICF blockwork and underfloor heating, to the roof trusses and floor joists.

SELF BUILDERS' OWN STORIES LIVE - Gain inspiration and confidence from Build It readers who have realised their self-build dreams. Hear their stories in the live theatre on the show floor.

ECO BUILDING ADVICE - Hear how to build a sustainable home and gain one-to-one advice on a range of issues including renewable energy and environmentally friendly building techniques.

FIND A BUILDER - Talk to the Federation of Master Builders who can guide you through the process of finding the right builder for your project via their database of trusted tradesmen in your area.

ESTIMATING SERVICE - Talk to an estimator to better understand how much it will cost to build the home of your dreams.

3D HOME DESIGN DEMOS - Visit the Build It 3D Home Designer stand for a FREE 20 minute demonstration of how to visualise your home project in 3D.

SMART HOME LIVING - Understand how to integrate automation and technology into your self-build. A variety of suppliers will be on hand to offer guidance on how the latest tech can improve the way you live in your new home.

SELF BUILD ACADEMY - FREE taster sessions from the Self Build Academy delivered by Potton – providing essential knowledge for self-builders.

NEW! BRICK-MAKING DEMO - Hands on: make your own personalised brick under the expert guidance of Northcot Master Brickmakers

NEW! LAND ZONE - All you need to know about finding land, along with a gallery of current available plots of land in the region plus the latest serviced-plot projects across the UK

For further information and to book tickets visit www.builditlive.co.uk

Tickets are now on sale via the website. Standard ticket price will be £12 per person. Children under 16 are admitted free with an accompanying adult, and do not require a ticket.

The show opens at 10am on both days and is open until 5pm on Saturday and 4.30pm on Sunday.

All paying visitors will receive a copy of the latest issue of Build It Magazine worth £4.65 when they visit the show

Press enquiries including requests for press tickets, self-build case studies and high resolution images to Caroline Edmunds at Pennington PR on 01892 616647 or email caroline@penningtonpr.com

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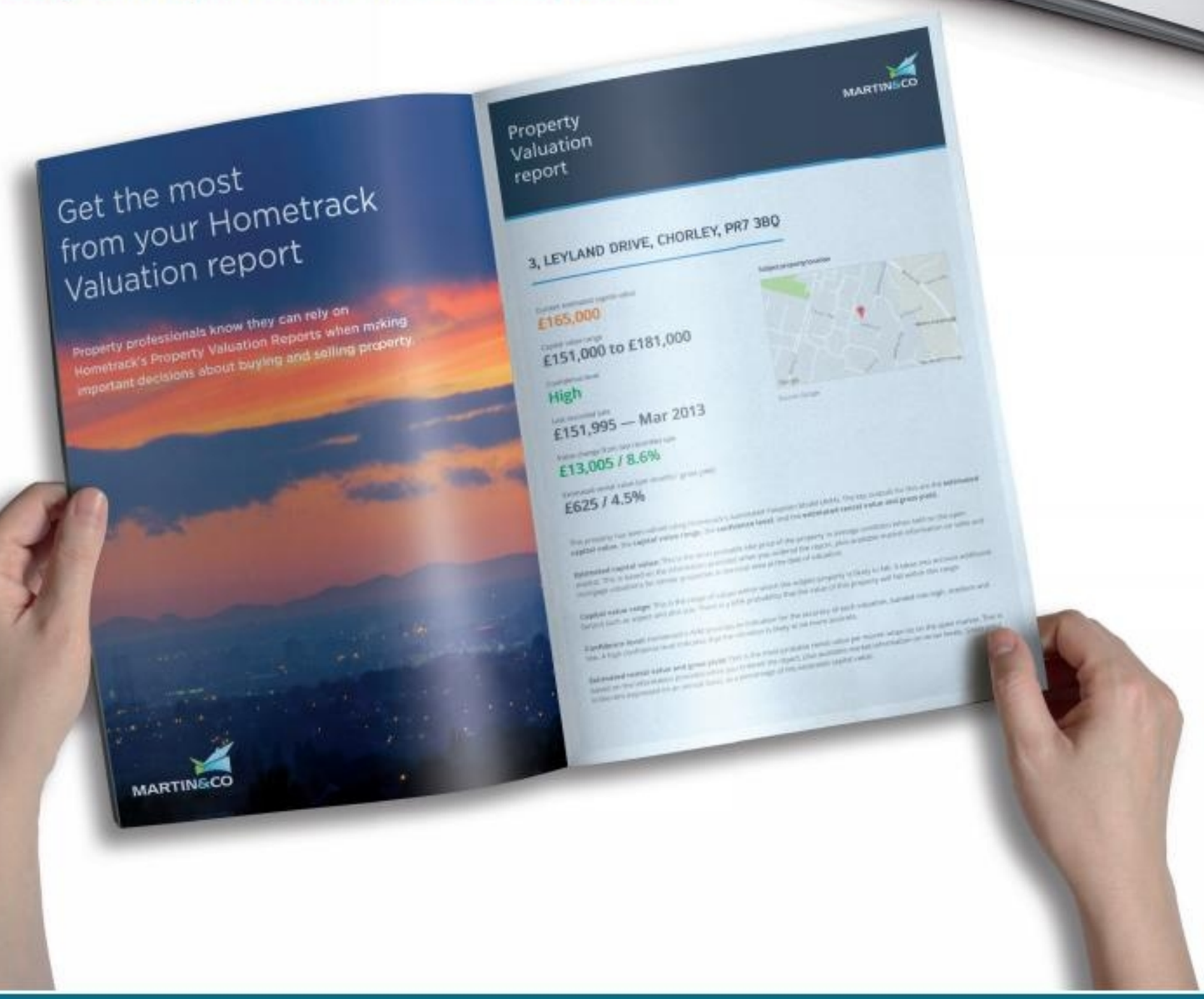
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Renault KADJAR Expression + TCe 130

Good all-round decent-sized performer

By **Tony Yates**

I know I keep going on about this, but when you first start looking around for a new car, you will probably spend around 10-20 hours of your life searching on the internet for all the reviews on what's hot to buy and what's not. Well, I'm here to tell you that you need to ignore everything your friends tell you and probably what I tell you, and go out and buy a car based on how you feel when you sit inside for the first time. Only then will you know if you have made the right decision.

Before I go into this week's review, I wanted to give a quick shout out to Mr Short who emailed me last week to ask if there is such a thing as 'the perfect car' Well, Mr Short, all I can say is refer to the above statement!. Happy motoring my friend.

Power & efficiency

The KADJAR I currently have on test is powered by a 130HP, 1,197cc petrol engine with a 6-speed manual gearbox and a respectable top speed of around119mph. It also has a 0-62 time of 10.1 seconds, and with little fuss, I managed a combined figure of around 50.4 mpg. Actually, having 130HP in a KADJAR, makes it move along at a really good pace, but it did feel a little underpowered. Saying that it was still OK. There is a diesel version and to be fair it's just as good, and it comes with more torque which makes overtaking that little bit easier.

On the road

First off – good chassis, along with a suspension set up that feels tight. The steering is also direct and the grip levels are good which gives you a decent amount of confidence into the corners. Going back to the suspension, yes, it feels very controlled and tight, but I felt the ride was far too hard for my liking. But that's just my own opinion and others may find it just about right.

Safety & technology

Renault has carefully crafted the KADJAR to give it a dynamic presence on the road – whilst also introducing some neat touches - like the front flowing grille and headlights which all help in giving it a great look. Then, there are those striking bold and almost stealth looking body lines, which actually help finish off the look. All of this, of course, leads into giving the KADJAR a good roadside appeal to the casual admirer.

When it comes to space on the inside, then the KADJAR has plenty in that department, so no worries there. I also managed to fit in my whole family and the weekly shopping with very little fuss. The rear seats also have the bonus of splitting 60:40 and are upholstered in a dark carbon fabric which blended in with the rest of the interior. Plus, it looks hard wearing – perfect if you have a family. I also liked the driver's seat which had plenty of adjustment.

Inside; it's all good with a quality interior and soft-touch surfaces all round which gives it a nice appeal. The KADJAR is also packed with lots of equipment such as; ABS with EBD, airbags for the driver, front passenger, front & rear curtain & front lateral. Assisted parking brake, cruise control, ECO mode, ESP, insurance approved alarm (Cat 1), ISOFIX points on outer rear seats, hill start assist, manual air conditioning, multi-function trip computer, LED daytime running lights.

Plus, Bluetooth connectivity, FM/AM/DAB tuner, 4X20W speakers, audio streaming, hands-free calls and USB /AUX sockets.

To sum up

I'm going to give the KADJAR four stars in this test because I believe it's a decent sized car that will tick all the boxes for someone looking for a vehicle that will fulfil all their needs.

Price: from £19,790

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2013-13 **FORD MONDEO 2.0 TDCI TITANIUM X ESTATE**, Green, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 61450 Miles .... WAS £8,995 NOW £8,695
2013-13 **NISSAN JUKE 1.5 DCI ACENTA**, Silver, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, Ac, Alloys, 31400 Miles, ... £8,695
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2013-13 **SEAT IBIZA 1.2 TSI FR**, White, 3 Dr, RCL, PAS, Ew, Alloys, 38800 Miles £7,495
2015-15 **FORD FIESTA 1.0 ZETEC TURBO**, Black, 3 Dr, RCL, Alloys, 32500 Miles.... £7,495
2014-14 **FORD FIESTA 1.0 ZETEC 100**, White, 5 Dr, RCL, AC, Alloys, 37150 Miles £7,295
2013-63 **VAUXHALL ADAM 1.4 GLAM**, White, 3 DR, RCL, PAS, Allays, 23500 Miles £6,995
2015-15 **HYUNDAI I10 1.0 SE**, White, 5 DR, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 16970 Miles.... £6,995
2009-09 **NISSAN QASHQAI 2.0 N-TEC 4WD**, Silver, 5 DR, RCL, Alloys, SAT NAV, 64471 Miles £6,995
2015-15 **SEAT IBIZA 1.2 TSI I-TECH**, Blue, 3 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, Alloys, Sat Nav, 34150 Miles £6,995
2014-14 **RENAULT CLIO 1.2 DYNAMIQUE**, Grey, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 22377 Miles .... WAS £7,295 NOW £6,995
2015-15 **FIAT 500 1.2 S**, Red, 3 DR, RCL,PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 24200 Miles .... WAS £9,995 NOW £6,795
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Fuel consumption figures for the Civic SE 1.0 i-VTEC Turbo Manual mpg (l/100km): Urban 51.4mpg (5.5L/100km), Extra Urban 67.3mpg (4.2L/100km), Combined 60.1mpg (4.7L/100km). CO_2 emissions: 110g/km. Fuel consumption figures sourced from official EU-regulated laboratory test results, are provided for comparison purposes and may not reflect real-life driving experience.

Model Shown: Civic SE 1.0 i-VTEC Turbo Manual in Rallye Red at £18,895 On The Road (OTR). **Terms and Conditions:** New retail Civic (excluding Civic Type R) ordered from 01 May 2018 to 31 May 2018 and registered by 31 May 2018. Subject to model and colour availability. Offers applicable at participating dealers and are at the promoter's absolute discretion. **Honda deposit contribution:** £1,500 Honda deposit contribution on new Civic models (excluding Civic Type R) purchased through Honda Aspirations. **5.9% APR representative Honda Aspirations (PCP):** Maximum customer deposit **30%**. You do not have to pay the Final Payment if you return the car at the end of the agreement and you have paid all other amounts due, the vehicle is in good condition and has been serviced in accordance with the Honda service book and the maximum annual mileage has not been exceeded. **Excess mileage charge includes VAT at current rate.** Indemnities may be required in certain circumstances. Finance is only available to persons aged 18 or over, subject to status. All figures are correct at time of publication but may be subject to change. Honda Franchise Dealers are credit brokers, not lenders. Credit provided by Honda Finance Europe Plc. Cain Road, Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 1HL. Honda Financial Services is a trading name of Honda Finance Europe Plc. Cain Road, Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 1HL a company registered at Companies House No 03289418. Honda Finance Europe plc is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority, Financial Services Register number 312541. **5 Years' £599 Servicing:** Please visit http://www.honda.co.uk/cars/offers.html. Johnsons Cars Ltd (Firm Reference Number: 512460) are an Appointed Representative of ITC Compliance Ltd, and are authorised & regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (their registration number is 313486) and are permitted to advise on and arrange General Insurance contracts. Registered Name: Johnsons Cars Ltd, Registered Office: Johnsons Cars Ltd, Empire Court, Albert Street, Redditch, Worcestershire B97 4DA. Registration No. 3716766. .VAT Registration No. GB927551606.

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MG GS fuel consumption: URBAN 36.6 - 37.6 mpg | 7.7 - 7.5 l/100km, EXTRA URBAN 53.2 mpg | 5.3 l/100km, COMBINED 45.5 - 46.3 mpg | 6.2 - 6.1 l/100km, CO2 EMISSIONS 139 - 141 g/km.

Models shown: MG GS Exclusive with metallic paint in Spiced Orange at £20,090 on the road (OTR) or from £219 a month based on a 60 month Conditional Sale agreement with a MG Deposit Contribution of £2,000 and a customer deposit of £4,950. MG3 3Style+ with Combination Paint option in Ruby Red with White Roof at £12,190.00 on the road (OTR) or from £159 a month based on a 60 month conditional sale agreement with a customer deposit of £2,650. Monthly 'from price' based on MG3 3Form at £10,195 on the road (OTR) or from £135 a month based on a 60 month Conditional Sale agreement with a £2,095 customer deposit.

†OTR prices of £8,695 applies to the MG3 3Time (not available on the 0% APR Conditional Sale offer), with no optional extras and £15,095 applies to the MG GS Explore with no optional extras. OTR prices include VAT where applicable, vehicle first registration fee, delivery, number plates and 12 months "Vehicle Excise Duty'. Fuel consumption values shown are based on official EU test figures and are to be used as a guide for comparative purposes and may not be representative of actual driving results. Offer terms and conditions apply.

*0% APR: Conditional sale. 0% APR available on all MG3 models (excluding MG3 3Time) and all MG GS models until 31.03.2018. A minimum deposit of 20% of the cash OTR price applies on all models. Finance by MG Financial Services, CF15 7YT, subject to status, availability and terms and conditions. Applicants must be aged 18 or over. Please see your local dealer for details.

** 5 year warranty available on both models. MG3 warranty for 5 year/60,000 miles (whichever occurs first) and MG GS warranty for 5 year/80,000 miles (whichever occurs first) from date of first registration.

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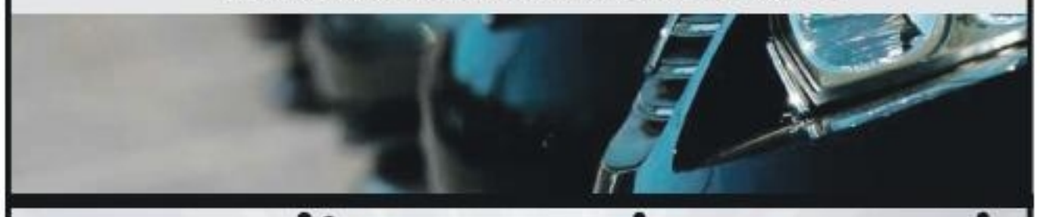

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BUSH 40" LED FHD TV 6 months very genuine reason for sale with free wall clock £125 tel: OX 751074

LAWN mower flymo rotary stripes lawn for adjusting levels for cutting good condition electric £15 tel: 01865 875639

GARDEN furniture solid wood two circular tables and four chairs £15 tel: 01865 875639

FRAME tent 4/6 birth for sale other camping equipment open to offers tel: 01235 765574

GARDEN leaf blower collector good order £15 tel: 07719 111860

WANTED ride on motor not tractor working or not cash paid tel: 07719 111860

NEW shooting jacket large size green lined waterproof £49 good make tel: 07719 111860

IKEA pine wood single wardrobe was £70 sell for £30 tel: 07719 111860

NEW pair Clarks brown shoes size 8 and size 9 £25 tel: 07719 111860

ENCYCLOPAEDIA Britannica 32 volumes all mint condition £90 tel: 07719 111860

HONDA 4hp petrol engine suitable for Rotavator etc £35 tel: 01865 891271

CHAMPION 4 wheel rotary lawn mower working order no box hence £40 tel: 01865 891271

MOTOR oil Mondeo mk3 Ford 5/30 5L unopened 2x power filters 1 x engine air filter oil filters offers tel: 01491 651976

SAT Nav Nuvi 205w series life time map updates car charger windscreen mounting operating booklet excellent condition £5 tel: 01491 651976

SAMSONITE carry case black W49cm H15cm outside zip compartment interior pockets shoulder strap rechargeable excellent condition £5 tel: 01491 651976

SOLID oak table 55cm square top 50cm high removable legs excellent condition £5 tel: 01491 651976

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OLD 5 gallon paraffin drum suitable for collector or retro garage or garden display ornament £5 tel: 07856 312907

OAK carver dining chair excellent condition £15 tel: 07974 781234

POWA caddy twin line3 good as new £50 tel: 01865 371764

CANE stool beige cushion perfect condition £25 tel: 01865 371764

APOLLA ladies 18 speed cycle £70 ono tel: 01235 210570

GENTS overcoat black size 38" £40 very good condition tel: 01235 210570

HONDA Jazz alloy wheel complete with tyre 175x65xr15 £75 tel: 01844 213675

GARDEN roller very heavy £20 tel: 01235 529174

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LAWN mower large flymo perfect working order £15 tel: 07910 014918

PATIO table black metal with wind open parasol good condition with under table weight £5 tel: 01865 433089

FOLD up garden chairs 2 heavy duty resin white good condition £5 each tel: 01865 433089

FOLD up sun lounger heavy duty resin white good condition £5 tel: 01865 433089

WALLPAPER table ideal for car booters good condition tel: 01865 433089

PAVING slabs all must go open to offers square oblong some with corners missing tel: 01865 433089

BRASS extending fender good condition £75 tel: 01235 772988

BLACK metal fire screen art deco style £15 tel: 01235 772988

BRASS fireside set 4 piece on stand tel: 01235 772988

ONYX standard lamp with shade both soft green colour £30 tel: 01235 772988

CHILD sized Windsor chair oak £25 tel: 01235 772988

NEW boxed chair white for large doll or bear £20 tel: 01235 772988

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MODERN table 39in x 39in kight oak folds to 39in x 20in and 4 padded chairs dark material excel c ondition almost new moving reason for sale £80 tel: 07500 207062

LARGE foot stool light brown excel condition as new moving reason for sale £80 tel: 07500 207062

MANS bike 19" frame not a mountain bike town and country bike good condition well looked after £50 tel: 07748 900397

WANTED Star Wars LEGO minifigures. All considered for collector. Cash waiting. TEXT ONLY PLEASE 07460 775703

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1200W circular saw (new) tel: 01865 372253

ELEKTRA wood lather base 30in long tel: 01865 372253

BLACK and Decker work mate tel: 01865 372253

AXMINSTER band saw tel: 01865 372253

FORD escort MK1 two boxes of used parts trim etc ring for list £50 ono tel: 07514 661646

PORTA potti elegance very clean ideal caravan or camping £20 tel: 07514 661646

EXERCISE ball purple from argos hardly used £4 tel: 07514 661646

TWIST and swing exercise stepper with instruction manual £10 tel: 07514 661646

HILL Billy electric golf trolley with seat two batteries charger 6x left handed clubs brush tees and balls £25 tel: 01491 612838

SMALL tables four wooden utility type tables all same size 30in x 18in 30in h can be dismantled easily £30 the lot tel: 01865 762859

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NEFF cooker hood two piece carbon filter boxed and unused £10 tel: 01285 255173

DIMMER switch 3 gang brushed stainless steel unused £10 tel: 01285 255173

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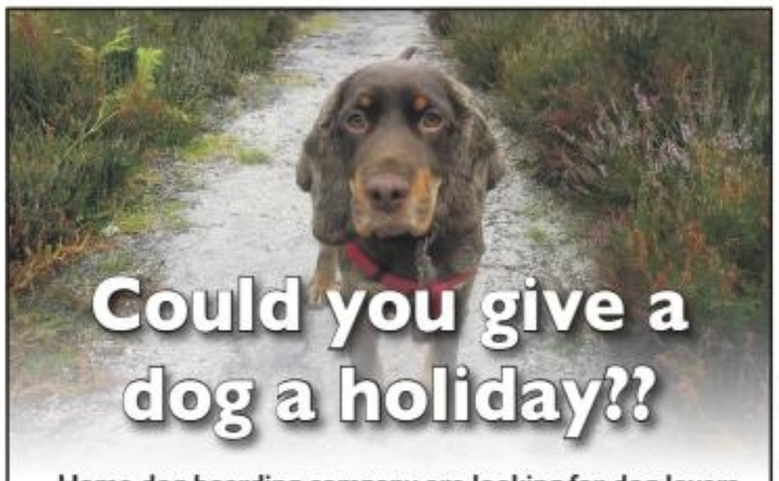

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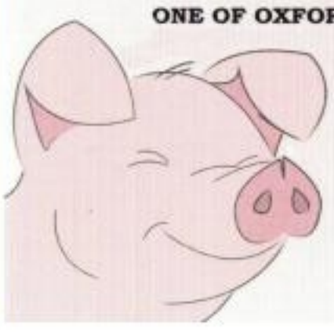

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STAG minstrel mahogany MB173 five small drawer knee hole sit under dressing table moveable mirror £30 ono tel: 01235 525257

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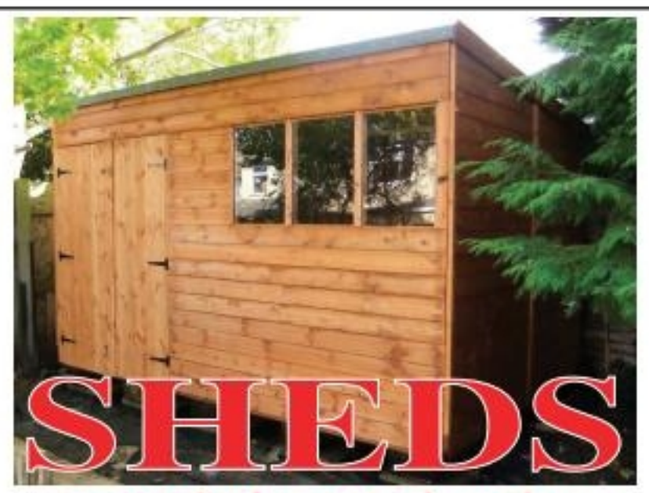

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LOOKING for company with someone who can restore my faith in the male species! Karen, sensual 40s brunette seeking genuine fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 431163**

PASSIVE kindly lady, 48yrs. Blonde, green eyes, smartly dressed. Hoping to meet a strong minded older man to respect. **Text Only. Box: 4018047**

MICHELLE, 44yrs, very feminine blue-eyed blonde seeks strong, well-built male to share intimate good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 431145**

JAYNE, professional lady, 46yrs. Married but husband works overseas. Lonely and missing romance and private moments. Hoping to meet a like minded gent of any age. **Text Only. Box: 4063214**

VERONICA, 40 and fabulous. Attractive black lady seeks white man for intimate fun & friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 431129**

TAMMY, pretty black lady. Long dark hair, lightish skin. 38yrs. Hoping to meet a much older kindly white gent for daytime romance. **Text Only. Box: 4006020**

JOAN, 50 something black lady. Varied interests, intelligent and interesting. Hoping to meet a gent 50+ who is looking for romance and love. Lets not mess around, call me soon. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 431127**

KERRY, professional lady, own house, car etc. Well groomed and educated. I am just missing that special someone. I am 42yrs but do love the company of an older gentleman. **Text Only. Box: 4000471**

GENUINE, kind & caring lady, 55yrs, feminine, romantic, loves life. Varied interests. Just missing that special someone. Call me lets chat. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 431125**

TRACY Single mum, 34yrs. Own home but no job. I am free all day while the kids are at school and I get bored & lonely. Help brighten up my day. **Text Only. Box: 4095250**

MAGGIE, 59yrs, single attractive lady. Hoping to meet a nice kind gent for mutual caring, warmth, romance, lets not be lonely any more. all or txt me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 431123**

HELEN, sophisticated, cultured lady, 30 something seeks mature man for life's pleasures. Discreet with no strings. **Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 430171**

ANNE 45, cuddly bubbly female, very affectionate looking to let her hair down with a happy, down to earth male. Age/status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 431047**

GILLY, 39yrs, voluptuous sexy well groomed lady. Varied interests, loves mutual pampering. Looking to meet a man for mutual pleasures. Discretion assured & expected. Call me. **Tel: 0906 515 3027 Box: 430249**

NATALIE blonde blue-eyed nurse, 39yrs, medium build, no ties, life is good but I'm missing someone to love and lust after. Can you help? **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 430981**

KAREN 41yrs, long legged blonde lady seeks no strings fun with chap of any age. ACA. **Tel: 0906 515 3023 Box: 430251**

SUE, lovely sensual brunette, young 50, seeks adventurous, fun loving, tactile man who thinks he can keep up with me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 431007**

DISCREET sensual and loving lady seeks man 30+ for daytime fun in her home. ACA. **Tel: 0906 515 3019 Box: 429849**

LINDA, attractive widow with own home & car. Varied interests, kind & caring. Hoping to meet a lovely kind gent 67+. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 430845**

MARRIED lady 39yrs wltm discreet gent for those intimate little extras. **Tel: 0906 515 3007 Box: 429851**

NAUGHTY broadminded black lady, 40yrs seeks no strings daytime fun. Call or text me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 430837**

ANGELA, 48yrs, seeks no strings casual fun. I have my own house, car and am solvent. I'm busty with a firm figure. You must be open minded, age/status unimportant. **Tel: 0906 515 3015 Box: 427633**

ATTRACTIVE dark haired lady, 52yrs, kind & compassionate. Just missing a nice chap for romance. Call me, let's chat, meet up. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 430949**

MARIELLE, 45yrs, curvy attractive lady, likes older men. I'm married so you must be discreet. Lets meet up, and make each other smile again. Call me and lets get to know each other. **Tel: 0906 515 3039 Box: 426853**

SANDY, kind lady, 60s, attractive & young looking. Hoping to meet a nice kind gent for outings, chats and more. I will answer all calls & texts. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 430955**

JANE, young 41, very broadminded seeks chap any age for discreet no strings fun, any age, no time wasters ACA. **Tel: No: 0906 515 3011 Box: 409715**

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man seeking

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MARK, 48, slim, 5ft11, dark features, olive skinned, attractive, WLTM slim, attractive naughty female, 35-50, with high sex drive to match mine, for fun and passionate times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 431093**

MALE, 70s, looking for companionship for days out, going for meals, coastal visits, and having a wander round boot sales. **Text only. Mailbox No: 6221977**

MALE 70s, likes garden centres, going to the coast and going on holiday. Just looking for company at the moment. **Text only. Box no: 6221977**

STEVE 49 yrs, single, bit mad, WLTM a female to have a laugh & stuff. **Text only replies. Box No: 6204848**

WHITE male, 50, seeks genuine, loyal, sincere black female for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 413261**

MALE, 50, 6ft, married, WLTM woman, 50+, for no strings discreet fun. Ideally you can accommodate. I am very lonely and long to meet someone. **Text only replies. Box No: 6208598**

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MALE 60, N/S, easygoing, GSOH, various interests, WLTM a nice black lady 50-60yrs. **Text only replies. Box no: 6192958**

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Lowe vows car will improve

By George Welch

F1 - Williams

PITIFUL Williams have launched a recovery plan in an effort to lift them from the bottom of the constructors' championship – but Sunday's race in Monaco might be too soon to expect an improvement.

"The pace is really quite bad," is the damning verdict of chief technical officer Paddy Lowe who refuses to mince his words in his assessment of the FW41.

The Grove-based outfit are in a spot of bother, propping up the Formula 1 standings just four years on from a third place finish in 2014.

A penny for Sir Frank's thoughts as his team, one of the most iconic teams in the sport, have a diminutive three points, 18 fewer than the same stage last season.

But the south Oxfordshire side refuse to write off the season.

"We have put in place a programme with the team, which we call a recovery programme, so you bring the car back to the level we intended to operate," Lowe told the Formula 1 website.

"That programme is timed up to the mid-season point. I can't guarantee anything. We just lost our way in some critical areas, which we now understand."

Williams' 2018 challenger is the first car Lowe can call his own since joining from Mercedes in 2017.

The nine-time constructor winners knew something was wrong with the FW41 as soon as it hit the track for pre-season testing – and fortunes have refused to reverse.

Lowe said: "The car isn't good enough, it's not what it should be.

"There are some issues with it, which fortunately we think we understand and we're very busy doing a lot of work to fix those issues.

"None of those fixes are in place [now] unfortunately, which is why we were struggling so much at a circuit [Barcelona].

He added: "We are not writing off this season.

"We haven't yet brought anything that solves those, so we shouldn't expect it to be any better. But we will do in due course."

Lonely figure: Paddy Lowe accepts he didn't get it right on the FW41 **Picture**: *Williams Martini Racing*

Sunday's Monaco GP will be challenging for Williams, particularly as it is a circuit where they have struggled in recent years.

All ready for the glitz and glamour of Monaco

F1 - Haas

THE 2017 Monaco Grand Prix proved to be a milestone event for Haas as the American side celebrated its first ever double-points finish.

Now in its third season, the Banbury prepared outfit have not stopped growing and have set their sights on more points in the French municipality on Sunday.

Haas are enjoying something of a growth spurt, displaying impressive pace and performance in all five races so far, even if they do not have the points to back it up.

Kevin Magnussen heads to Monaco with a hot hand. He has scored as many top-six finishes in his last four races (two) as he had previously scored in his F1 career.

Pointless team-mate Romain Grosjean, meanwhile, is up against a stacked deck. He will serve a three-place grid penalty in Monaco after the incident which forced his retirement last time out in Spain.

The Frenchman has set out for a solid qualifying performance which he said is "pretty much everything".

He added: "Then in the race, you need to stay in between the walls and wait. Sometimes nothing will happen, sometimes a lot will happen and you can gain some positions. We're going to focus on qualifying."

Enstone-based Renault are aiming to maintain their 'best of the rest' status at the legendary Circuit de Monaco after moving to fourth in the constructors' championship.

Battle for points: Romain Grosjean, pictured during last week's in-season testing in Barcelona has been hit with a three-place grid penalty **Picture**: *Haas F1*

Jaguar overcome radio problems to record solid result

Formula E

JAGUAR battled radio feedback problems to return to the points at Sunday's Berlin E-Prix.

The Grove-based team discovered just before the race that Mitch Evans, although able to hear his team's communications, could not provide feedback.

However, the Kiwi brought his I-TYPE 2 home in sixth, higher than his qualifying position of ninth, for eight points.

Evans was able to match the energy levels of the race leaders but was unable to break into the top five.

He said: "Finishing in the points is the best we could have hoped for after a tough day.

"I was feeling optimistic before we started and thought we had a good chance.

"We haven't felt massively comfortable with the set up all day but I'm happy with the race and taking points home is a solid result."

Team-mate Nelson Piquet was also in the battle for points but, despite running as high as ninth, was made to pay when he overshot turn one on the final lap and lost a few places. The Brazilian finished 12th.

Jaguar remain fifth in the standings, 12 points behind Mahindra in fourth.

Meanwhile, Grove-based racer Alex Lynn finished 16th for DS Virgin Racing.

The Formula E circus heads to Zurich for the inaugural Switzerland E-Prix on June 10.

Can anybody hear me?: Mitch Evans finished sixth despite not being able to communicate with his team **Picture**: *Panasonic Jaguar Racing*

Positive signs ahead of test

Moto GP

BRADLEY Smith was pleased with his performance and his team's improvement ahead of Spain's MotoGP test.

The KTM racer picked up two points after finishing 14th in Sunday's Grand Prix de France at Le Mans for a second successive top-15 finish.

It was another positive result for the Forest Hill rider who is out to secure a 2019 ride after being replaced.

The 27-year-old started from the sixth row in France and battled with Marc VDS's Franco Morbidelli late on, but had to be content with 14th.

Smith said: "I was pleased with the race. I lost a bit of time at the beginning with the battling on the opening laps.

"I was keeping stable with the guys by mid-race and then struggled to get back to them.

"Fourteenth is another points-scoring position and I was having a good fight with Morbidelli at the end.

"We improved another 15 seconds over our race distance last year, so again KTM is making gains but the competition keeps getting higher and higher."

MotoGP teams put their bikes through their paces at a two-day test in Barcelona from Monday.

The next race is in Mugello as the circuit heads to Italy on June 3.

Chance to shine for amateurs

Golf

A FEAST of top class amateur golf will be on show when the Brabazon Trophy is played at Frilford Heath next week.

An international field will compete for the highly-prized trophy at the Oxfordshire course from next Thursday to Sunday.

It is a title that all amateurs want on their golfing CV and past champions include major winners Sandy Lyle and Charl Schwartzel.

Heavyweights Justin Rose, Rory McIlroy and recent GolfSixes winner Paul Dunne are among past challengers.

Alistair Booth, Frilford Heath chairman and Berks, Bucks & Oxon president, said the event is a perfect opportunity to catch some top quality players destined for the professional circuits.

He added: "We'd love to welcome everyone with an interest in golf and we're hoping for lots of spectators from local clubs and that families will see this as a great day out."

Admission is free.

The main contenders will include England's Todd Clements and Matthew Jordan, who are both ranked in the amateur world top 20 – and are in sizzling form.

Visit tinyurl.com/y7vewcjg for more information.

■ Frilford Heath's Eddie Pepperell tees off in the BMW PGA Championship at Wentworth today at 7.50am from the 1st hole alongside Andrew 'Beef' Johnston and Haotong Li.

Sport

Oxford United 2017/18 season: January – May

Rocky road to safety but full of promise for the season ahead

THE deadwood has been given the boot and the pre-season fixtures have been pencilled in the diary.

And that's just as well for Oxford United fans, who will be in a rush to put the 2017/18 season at the back of their minds.

Between August and May, the U's teased their fans as they flirted with the play-offs before dragging them into a relegation battle and a laughable 59-day managerial hunt.

There was no cup run of previous years, but there was at least a positive start, a takeover and saviour Karl Robinson rescued them from the drop. But what will 2018/19 bring?

George Welch continues his look back on the 2017/18 season examining the second half of the campaign

April – We are staying up!: Todd Kane gives United the lead and the win from the penalty spot against Rochdale.

January

IT was a long road to redemption for Pep Clotet following the previous month's 7-0 humiliation against Wigan Athletic.

2018 actually started well for the U's, winning back-to-back home games against MK Dons and Blackpool.

A penalty shootout win against Karl Robinson's Charlton Athletic followed as United edged a round closer to another Wembley appearance in the Checkatrade Trophy.

But the performances and atmosphere around the club remained flat.

Clotet, who hired a business to help with his image, had lost the fans and, reportedly, some of the players.

The Spaniard started the new year on thin ice which eventually gave way following a timid surrender against League Two-bound Bury.

January – Strong in defence: John Mousinho defends his team from frustrated fans following defeat at lowly Walsall, the game before the damning Bury defeat. The U's end the month managerless

Clotet tried but did not help himself, especially when the U's manager allegedly shushed critical supporters during his last game in charge.

With little board support – Darryl Eales' presence was much diminished in comparison to previous years – the writing was on the wall for the Catalonian.

Pep left the club in 10th place, eight points off both the play-offs and the relegation zone. He led Oxford to 12 wins, 11 draws and 13 defeats in his time in charge.

Derek Fazackerley was put in 'temporary' charge, a role the former assistant boss would fill for an almost comical two months as the club juggled a potential takeover, winter transfers and manager recruitment.

Then-prospective owner Sumrith Thanakarnjanasuth became more involved with the club and it was later revealed the man known as Tiger had part-funded United's winter transfers.

In came Cameron Brannagan (Liverpool) and Robert Dickie (Reading) on permanent deals, while Todd Kane (Chelsea), Isaac Buckley-Ricketts and Ashley Smith-Brown (both Manchester City) joined on loan.

The deals represented a shift in transfer policy, with the club returning its attention to young and hungry players to build for the future.

February

IN the middle of a takeover and tasked with steadying the ship – Derek Fazackerley faced an unenviable task.

Two (very) late goals in his first league game in charge – a dramatic 3-2 win at Charlton – showed that, perhaps, there wasn't much to it.

Passion, work rate and desire – the Oxford United of old were back.

Faz called on his 'outstanding' players to build on their heroics at the Valley to help them through the rest of the season.

Remaining in 10th place, there was a feeling that a corner had been turned.

However, by the end of the month four games later, Oxford were facing a very different situation.

The players failed to build on the Charlton result and, following defeats to Rotherham United (A), Bristol Rovers and Plymouth Argyle (both at home), the U's plummeted to 15th and just six points above the relegation zone.

Fazackerley admitted throughout the month that his team 'just weren't good enough'.

Indeed, the 66-year-old was struggling to galvanise an underperforming and under confident U's side as fans became increasingly concerned.

The Yellows finished the month with a 0-0 draw at relegation threatened Northampton Town in a game they should have won but was more important they avoided defeat, given the lurking trap door.

Providing the backdrop to the soap opera that Oxford's season was turning into was Tiger's takeover of the club.

February – New man in town: New owner/chairman Sumrith 'Tiger' Thanakarnjanasuth and Darryl Eales meet fans before the 0-0 stalemate at Northampton Town

Winning time game crucial to success

March – Hotseat: Karl Robinson's appointment ended a two-month manager hunt **Picture:** *OUFC*

PEP Clotet ended the season celebrating 'mission impossible' by keeping Birmingham City in the Championship.

But rewind 10 months and playing number two to Garry Monk for the third time in his career was not how the Catalonian – or Oxfordian – envisioned the season ending for him.

Against the ticking time bomb of being a football manager, he tried to make it on his own.

Clotet satisfied then-chairman Darryl Eales' criteria of being a young and hungry coach and impressed Oxford's three-man recruitment panel.

Eales, who plucked Clotet from a six-man shortlist, described him as a 'progressive', saying the club was 'lucky to have him'.

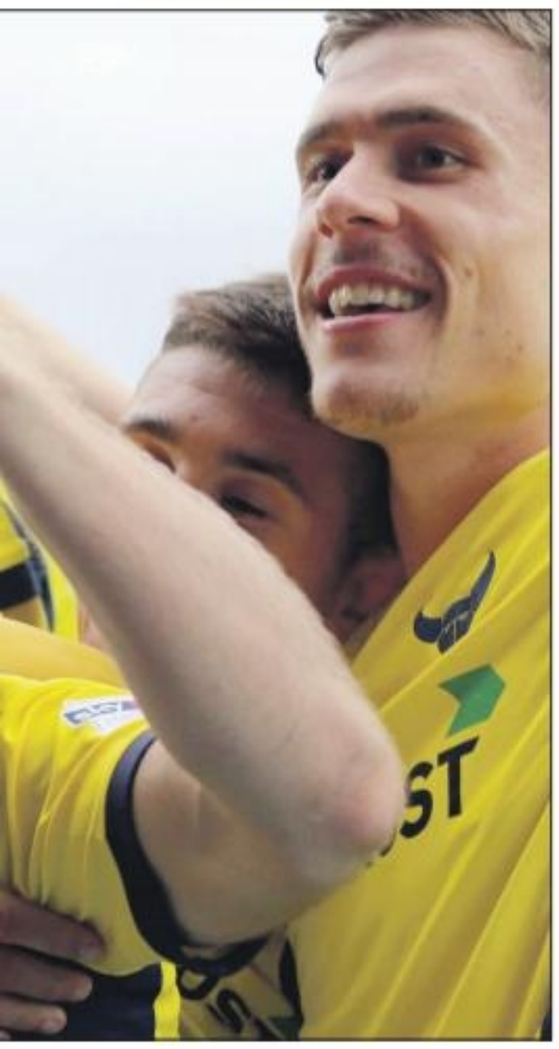
Indeed, Clotet played into that rhetoric, claiming that 'history would be made' if he was given time to get things right.

But time was not on his side and 29 league games later United were in need of another manager.

Nearly 60 days came and went before Karl Robinson swaggered into the building with an immediate brief: to keep Oxford a League One club.

Buying into the new chairman's ambition and vision of United as a Championship club, the Scouser edged the U's to safety and is aiming high for next season.

The play-offs were the target this year, but with more support from the board, players and fans than Clotet already, time should be on Robinson's side.



All pictures: *Steve Daniels*

The Thai businessman took over the club midway through the month, restarting a managerial hunt that had already extended for four weeks.

Tiger promised to appoint a new man 'within two days' when unveiled to the press.

A further update arrived at the end of the month, in which he said there were four candidates, again promising to make the appointment 'imminently'.

March

THE sinking feeling of defeat was becoming all too familiar – March began in that exact fashion with a 2-1 reverse at AFC Wimbledon – but at least Oxford United had a manager by the end of the month.

Derek Fazackerley signed off as temporary boss with a 2-1 home win against Peterborough United, a much-needed result to ease the nerves in the Oxford camp.

Towering defender Rob Dickie's first goal in yellow and a strike from James Henry, whose goals in the second half of the season proved pivotal, got the points at a freezing cold Kassam Stadium.

It left United in 15th, six points above the League One relegation zone.

It was a delicate situation for any manager to come into – but Karl Robinson isn't exactly a man short of confidence.

Finally appointed on March 22, his arrival brought a close to an incessant 59-day manager hunt.

High profile names such as Frank Lampard, Craig Bellamy and former U's boss Michael Appleton – among others – all headed the bookies' market before former MK Dons and Charlton man Robinson was ushered in.

And his tenure began in dramatic and controversial fashion with a 3-0 defeat at Portsmouth.

In Robinson fashion he blasted Nathan Thompson as a 'disgrace' and slated the referee for 'one of the biggest mistakes in a long time' for not sending him off for goading Alex Mowatt.

Mowatt apologised to his team after missing a penalty and then lashing out at Thompson. He described it as 'the worst 60 seconds' of his life.

But all the drama aside, there was a different Oxford United on the pitch.

There were signs of improvement in what Robinson described as a 'dominant' performance.

A respectable 1-1 draw at home to play-off side Scunthorpe United followed – player of the month James Henry was on target again – but the U's headed into a busy April only six points clear of the drop.

April & May

OXFORD United were running out of ways to turn their season around.

The Pep Clotet gamble had failed, Derek Fazackerley had failed to manufacture an upturn in form and a takeover had failed to inspire the players on the pitch.

Karl Robinson embarked on a hectic seven-match April in which to guide the U's to League One safety.

The 37-year-old called on his players to be brave – but this again failed to stop the slippery slide down the table.

Defeats to Shrewsbury Town (A) and Fleetwood Town (H) sandwiched a draw at struggling Oldham Athletic, cutting the gap between Oxford and the last relegation spot to five points having played a game more.

To add insult to injury, a superb stoppage time strike from old boy Conor McAleny earned the winner for Fleetwood in a smash-and-grab victory.

Robinson admitted he was 'shocked and speechless' after his side failed to win.

He defended his 'outstanding' players again and his loyalty was rewarded with his first win in charge four days later, a 2-0 home win against Southend (yep, James Henry scored).

The games were coming thick and fast and, despite a rotated side defending admirably, a narrow 1-0 defeat at eventual league winners Wigan was treated as a 'free hit'.

The reward for making five changes? A huge three points at Doncaster Rovers in the next game.

Henry hit double figures for the season with his match-winning second half header.

The season saving win all-but secured League One survival although, depending on other results, Oxford still had a job to do in their penultimate game of the season.

Robinson was soon praising his players again, this time for their calmness in coming from behind to beat Rochdale 2-1 and mathematically secure their third-tier status.

John Mousinho and Todd Kane converted penalties and the result was celebrated like a huge win. Oldham failed to beat Doncaster, meaning safety was secured even in defeat.

This set up a pointless final game of the season for United who had achieved their objective of survival before heading to title-chasing Blackburn Rovers.

Robinson's men finished 16th in League One on 56 points, 13 fewer than last season.

But it is a clean slate for the Oxford boss – who has promised to use the summer to build a team capable of competing for the play-offs next season.

Allen lands key role to develop Under-23 side

OUFC Under-23s

COACH Chris Allen will oversee Oxford United's new Under-23 side next season as Karl Robinson begins his backroom reshuffle.

The former winger made 181 appearances in Oxford colours during the 1990s and has been part of the first-team coaching set-up at the Kassam Stadium for three years.

Following a spell as youth team boss, Allen will fill a key role aimed at linking the youth and first teams.

It will provide United's young stars with regular, competitive games against clubs from various leagues and levels.

Oxford-born Allen, who also spent time at North Leigh as a player, said: "I think it's a sign of intent from the club and a really exciting development.

"I'm really looking forward to the challenge of looking after those players and working with them.

"I am passionate about helping young footballers improve and make their way into the first team and there is nothing better than seeing a player you have worked with go on and establish himself as a professional."

Allen helped develop Callum O'Dowda who was sold to Championship side Bristol City for more than £1m in the summer of 2016.

Well-respected: Chris Allen will take charge of the newly-set up team

Oxford owner and chairman Sumrith 'Tiger' Thanakarnjanasuth believes the U's have the 'ideal' man in charge to develop youngsters in the same way.

The Thai businessman said: "Chris has been a very loyal servant to this club first as a player and then on the coaching side and, in my eyes, this is effectively a deserved promotion for him because the new Under-23 side is a key part of our plans for the future of the club.

"He has a proven track record in helping young players improve and progress.

"He is a strong character who the players respect, but he is also a very highly regarded coach who we believe will suit this role perfectly."

Tiger added: "With the new training ground we will have fantastic facilities, and I believe the Under-23 side will play an important role not just this season but for the long term development of Oxford United."

New defender: Chance to show what I can do

OUFC: new signing

OXFORD United have made former Norwich City defender Cameron Norman their first summer signing.

The attacking right back was part of the Canaries side that won the FA Youth Cup in 2013, but failed to make a senior appearance.

The 22-year-old played for Woking, Norwich United, Concord Rangers and Needham before playing a key role in King's Lynn second place finish in the Southern League Premier this season.

Officially a free agent, Norman has penned a two-year contract at the Kassam, with the U's holding the option of a 12-month extension.

Manager Karl Robinson was pleased to secure the signature of the 'outstanding prospect' who has made a four-division jump up the league ladder.

He said: "He scored plenty of goals and was leading the way with assists as well so I'm not surprised clubs were looking but he came here and took a look at what we are building – not just a new training ground but also in terms of the squad – and he wants to be part of that.

"He is tall, very athletic, has a great attitude and we believe is an outstanding prospect for the future."

Norman added: "As soon as I met Karl and looked around here I knew I wanted to join. I have loved my time at King's Lynn and want to thank them for everything, but this is an exciting move for me and a chance to get back into the EFL and show what I can do."

Manager leaves after disappointing season

OUFCW

MANAGER Andy Cook has left Oxford United Women following Sunday's final day 4-0 defeat at league champions Doncaster Rovers Belles.

The club said Cook, who has been in charge of the WSL2 side for the last 18 months, had stepped down from his role himself.

Cook thanked the club and said the changing nature of football means "we all have to move on at some point".

His departure was announced on Monday, a day after the horribly out-of-form U's were thrashed 4-0 at Doncaster, who had already secured the WSL2 title, in the final game of the season.

The home side were out to enjoy themselves and dominated from the first minute.

Jess Sigsworth was their hat-trick hero, netting her first from the penalty spot on 15 minutes.

Rhiannon Roberts headed home to double the Rovers lead soon after.

Kirsty Hanson and Sigsworth both hit the post for the Belles before the latter scored her second penalty just before the break for 3-0.

Sigsworth netted her treble on 75 minutes and there was still time for Hanson to strike the woodwork again.

Chloe Chivers went closest for Oxford, finding the post a minute later.

The Yellows finished third from bottom with 12 points from 18 games. Two of their three league wins came in the opening couple of matchdays.

Sport

More sport inside: United: 2017/18 review, January – May | F1: Williams admit getting it wrong | OUFCW: Manager stands down after poor season

Ledson leaves wishing U's well for the future

By George Welch

MIDFIELD maestro Ryan Ledson believes there is a bright future ahead for Oxford United, despite making the jump to the Championship.

The 20-year-old joined Preston North End for an undisclosed fee – believed to be a substantial six-figure amount after matching United's asking price – last week.

Ledson, who scored four goals in 80 appearances for the U's after joining from Everton in the summer of 2016, has signed a three-year deal at Deepdale.

United fought off serious interest for the influential midfielder in January and, more recently, boss Karl Robinson said the move would only happen 'if money talks'.

Realistically though it was going to be a struggle for the club to hold on to a young star who was keen on a move closer to home and to test himself at a higher level.

However, the departing Scouser believes the U's are on the up.

"It's exciting to be joining Preston and I'm looking forward to playing in the Championship," United's player of the season said.

"But I am sad to be leaving Oxford as well. It's been fantastic and the fans there have been great with me so I wanted to thank them for that."

He added: "I leave with the club in really good hands.

"Karl has come in as manager and definitely got the club moving in the right direction again.

"He has been brilliant with me and I am sure that Oxford United are in for a really exciting time and will be challenging towards the top of the table again next season."

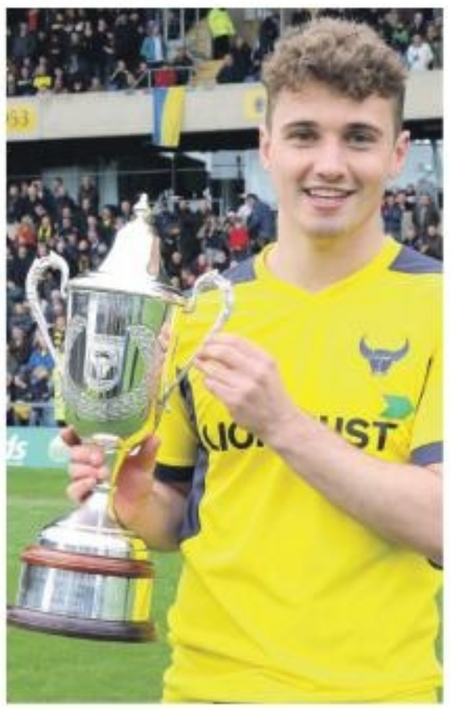
Robinson, reluctant to let such a key asset leave, admitted the move was inevitable once Preston matched the asking price.

He said: "I am sure everyone at the club is sad to see him go because he is an outstanding young man as well as a really good player.

"Preston have behaved impeccably throughout the process; once there was interest we told them a price and they matched it.

"Ryan is very mature and we spoke honestly about what he saw as a chance to move closer to home as well as a chance to prove himself in the Championship.

A really good player: Ryan Ledson who picked up the supporters player of the year award will be missed **Pictures:** *Steve Daniels*



"I'm sure the fans will join me in thanking Ryan for his time here and we wish him all the best in everything he does in the future."

No OxVox role for new owner of Sunderland

WEST Oxfordshire businessman and lifelong Oxford United supporter Stewart Donald is the new owner of League One side Sunderland.

His takeover of the recently relegated north east team means he will not take up a position as a co-opted member of Oxford United's supporters trust OxVox.

A statement on behalf of OxVox said: "Due to the completion of the purchase of AFC Sunderland by Stewart, it was felt by the committee, and agreed by Stewart, that there could be a potential conflict of interest if Stewart were a co-opted member of the OxVox Committee.

"With this in mind we wish to inform members that we have decided not to accept Stewart as a co-opted member of the committee.

"Stewart remains a friend of the club and a friend of OxVox, and while wishing him well with his new venture at Sunderland, we look forward to taking six points from them next season."

Donald was formally announced as the new owner of the Black Cats after paying Ellis Short £40million for the Club over the next two seasons.

Sunderland introduced their new owner to the media on Tuesday alongside business partner and fellow Oxford United fan Charlie Methven.

The United fan has previously been a financial supporter of the club when his business, Bridle Insurance, was the side's shirt sponsor.

Donald's company have also been sponsors of Evo-Stik South League side North Leigh from west Oxfordshire.

■ Sunderland were expected to confirm the appointment of St Mirren boss Jack Ross as their new manager as we went to press.

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